

Understanding Environmental Knowledge Controversies: The Case for Flood Risk Management

St Anne's College, University of Oxford
10th and 11th December 2009



10th December

10.30 – 11.00 Registration and coffee

11.00 – 13.00 Introduction and project themes (15 mins)

- **Introduction to the RELU programme and conference themes**
Professor Philip Lowe (University of Newcastle) RELU Programme Director
- **Introduction to the research project and conference programme**
Professor Sarah Whatmore (University of Oxford), Principal Investigator
- **Key dimensions of project research (45 minutes).**
 - **What work do flood models do? The production and circulation of flood risk knowledge.** Dr Catharina Landstrom and Professor Sarah Whatmore (University of Oxford) (Work Package 1)
 - **Competency Groups: an experimental method of working with people affected by flooding.** Ms Susan Bradley (University of Newcastle) and Professor Neil Ward (UEA) (Work Package 3)
 - **From data-theoretic to knowledge-theoretic modelling of flood risk.** Dr Nick Odoni and Professor Stuart Lane (University of Durham) (Work Package 2)
- **Cross-cutting project themes (30 minutes)**
 - **Environmental knowledge controversies: generative events for science and politics?** (Professor Sarah Whatmore);
 - **Repositioning Science in Flood Risk Management: from knowledge transfer to co-production** (Professor Stuart Lane)

Discussion and questions

Buffet Lunch 13.00 - 14.00

14.00 - 15.30 Transferable resources and project impacts
(Professor Stuart Lane and Dr Geoff Whitman) (Work Package 4)

- Review of knowledge exchange activities undertaken by project with scientific and policy communities –
- Overview/demonstration of resources produced by the project for practitioner/community use – project team members

15.30 – 16.30 **Coffee break and exhibition of work of local Flood Research Groups**

16.30 – 17.30 **Discussion forum**

Introduced by reflections from people involved in the research project in different capacities on their perspectives on/experiences of /lessons from the project:

- **Engagement in public science:** Local members of the Ryedale (Mike Potter) and Sussex (Mick Harker) Flood Research Groups;
- **Lessons for science policy:** Dr Katarina Schough (Senior Scientific Advisor, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and Member of the Project Advisory Panel)

Discussion and questions

Conference dinner 7pm for 7.30pm

11th December

09.00 - 10.30 **Academic and Policy Impacts**

How to optimise project impacts? Commentaries from academics and practitioners.

- Professor Keith Richards (Department of Geography, University of Cambridge)
- Professor Andy Stirling (Science and Technology Policy Research, University of Sussex)
- Jeremy Benn (Managing Director and Co-Founder, JBA Consulting)
- Dr Kathryn Monk (Science Strategy Manager, Environment Agency Wales)

10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee break**

11.00 – 12.30

- **Key aspects of the project in relation to wider RELU purposes and projects** – Philip Lowe
- Discussion - Reflections on the relevance of the project for knowledge exchange and research council funding.

12.30 Conference end - departure

NB – In the public areas of the conference space, there will be an exhibition of materials from Ryedale and Sussex for conference participants to visit during breaks and which will be the focus of a guided tour at 15.30 – 16.30 on day 1).

