TOWARDS BALANCED PUBLIC POLICIES FOR THE EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES IN THE UPPER RHINE REGION

ISSUES AND OPTIONS

CONTEXT
Despite provisions offered by existing frameworks for their coordination, policies and strategies in the field of water, agriculture and food, energy, land use and climate change are generally developed and implemented in isolation.

This results, for example, in:
- Possible antagonistic effects, the impacts of one policy having negative effects on another policy;
- Limited role granted to (multifunctional) projects and solutions that can benefit several policies at the same time;
- Limited efficiency in the use of public budgets, with some public funds used to offset the negative effects of other policies;
- Possible confusion among actors involved in operational implementation faced with conflicting political signals.

Finding the right balance in the implementation of public policies with potentially conflicting objectives is now becoming a major concern in a context of reduced public budgets at all decision-making levels, as well as growing concerns about the need for more efficient use of resources - particularly in the context of climate change.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP
The workshop aims at identifying:
- "Areas of friction" in the implementation of policies in the field of water, energy, food, land use and climate change in the Upper Rhine region;
- Opportunities and solutions to strengthen synergies between these policies in order to promote efficient use of resources in the Upper Rhine region.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM
The workshop will alternate plenary and interactive working-group sessions. It will combine presentations of model results (CAPRI, E3ME, MAGNET...) aimed at estimating the potential long-term impacts of policy instruments for the fields under consideration, operational experimentations of solutions integrating two fields or more, and the demonstration/use of a serious game facilitating the understanding "areas of friction" and the identification of solutions. The workshop will mix the three languages: English, French and German.

TARGET AUDIENCE
About 50 participants from various backgrounds (researchers, representatives of national and local public structures, civil society, representatives of economic activities, etc.), mainly from or working on the Upper Rhine region (European non-Rhine experts from Spain, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, etc.) are expected.