

On EU founded water-environmental Projects:-How to plan them? how to get them? how to make them? How to use the results? What's coming up?

By Géza Jolánkai

VITUKI Environmental and Water Research Institute, Budapest

and

University of Debrecen, Hungary

EU Conference in Prague, 7-8 May, 2009





How to plan them?:

Find an existing call that suits your knowledge (and your budget for your share);

Find a couple of good buzz words, that will attract most of the likely evaluators. Stand on several legs;

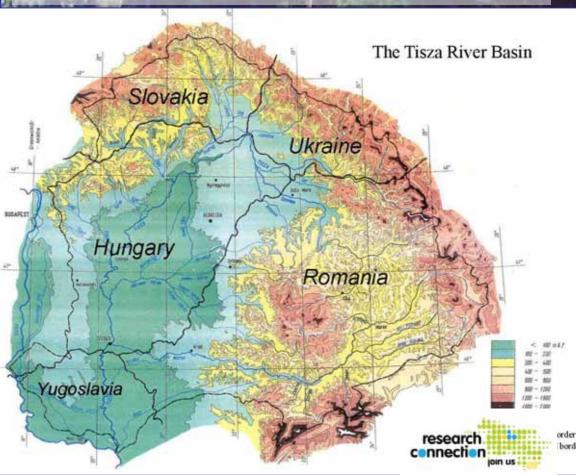
Find 3-4 good guys/girls: At least one who knows the science, one who knows the finance and one who knows the administrative-managerial rules-tricks-wishes of the EU

Find Partners who are 1/famous; 2/willing to join you and 3/will work hard (that is a real challenge);

Important advise: if you have a promising contact call him/her by phone; - this will prove your abilities:

The main calibration result of the Tisza Project : Diffuse load map of COD indicating non registered point source loads A dramatic proof of the Missing Link problem

The Tisza River Project Project duration 01 January 200231 Dec. 2004 EU 5. Framework Project (www.tiszariver.com)





How to plan them (continued)?:

Upon positive response send them the proposal <u>in good</u> time well prepared with <u>templates of your own</u>: promise the most and demand the least.

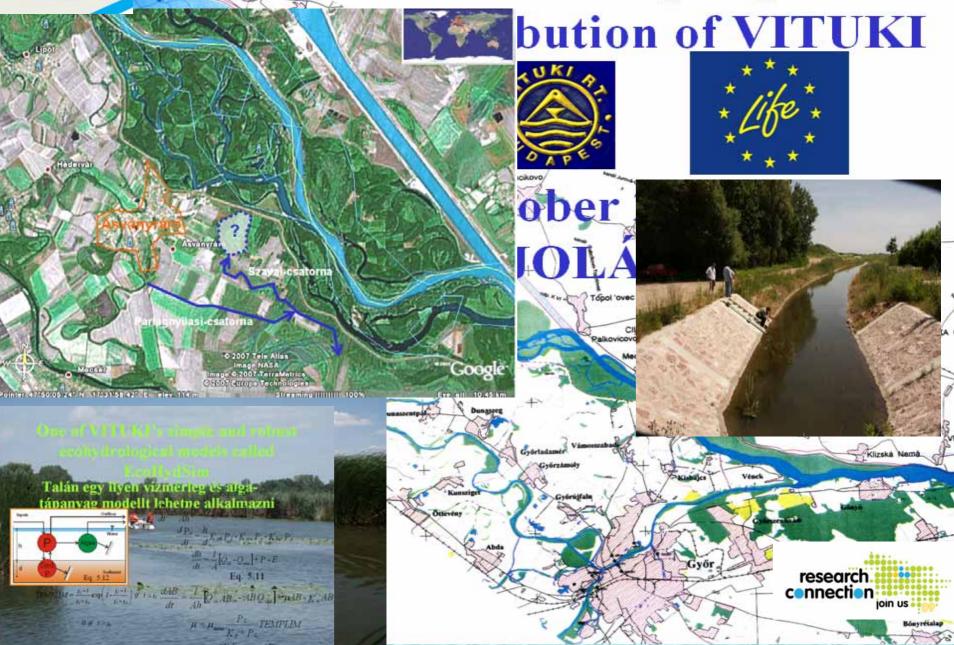
Some partners (already in agreement) will 1/not respond, 2/fail to send you all info you need, Thus you better count with 3-5 more partners than what you would really need

How to get them? you got good evaluation and entered the nego phase). This is the crucial phase lasting from say 0.5 year to 1.5 year(!!). There are not too many advices to give:

1/ Have much patience! 2/ Work hard - this may be the hardest period of the whole project (except final reporting). You hang on the communication devices 3 Keep your PO happy ensuring her/his good will (Good news, to my decades long experience POs are very friendly and good willing).



Szigetköz-LIFE project





How to make them?

Most importantly be sure that you (the coordinator) will work the most. In addition to good and hard working partners you have two types woo will make your life difficult:

1/ the efficient, hard working and demanding type who want to sell you all his/her ideas!

2/ the lazy type who does not want to work at all and will send y materials that he/she had to provide also for other clients.

An advice: Partners should always feel that your eyes are on them. Design and operate a home page whereto they have to load up their products and you get a message if they did so.

Another advice: Design a field-work type of project to ensure that they will do some real work.

Final advice: Take a two months work-holiday from other obligations, when you have to compose the final reports

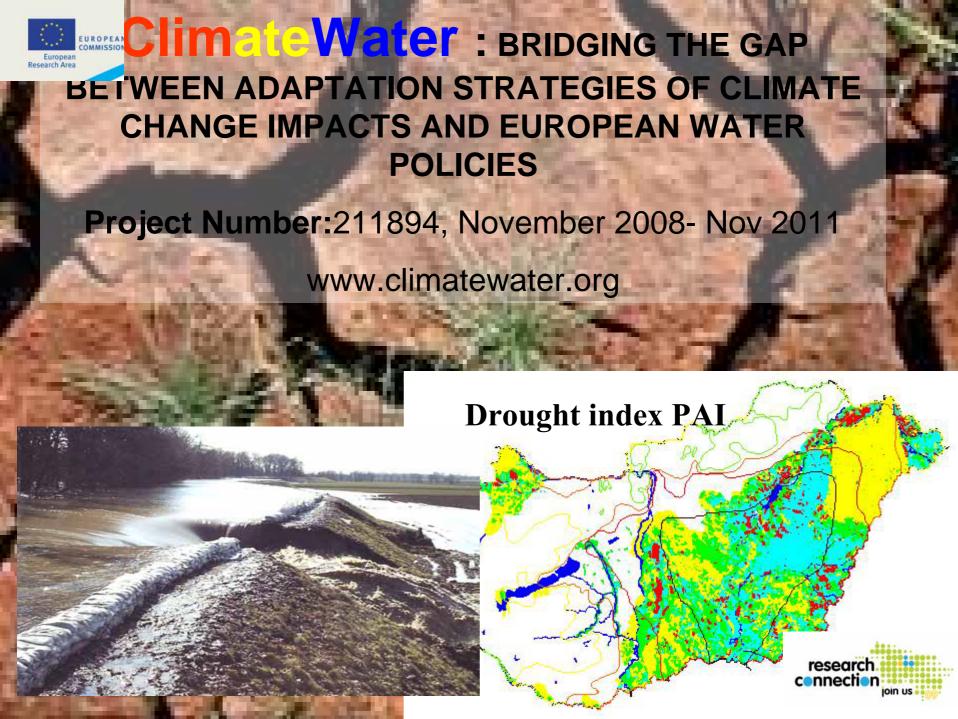


How to use the results?

You make nice publications, dissemination materials, stakeholder meetings etc. Thus your result is well used and utilised. If you consider <u>practical usage</u> and follow up, there might be some problems:

I can only inform you about river basin, waterenvironmental problem solving model studies we made lately: They are likely to end up in a drawer (instead in a PC's winchester) for the following reasons:

- 1.lack of (national and international) financing the use and follow-up activities (e.g. filling new data into the data base every year, etc);
- 2. The still existing gap between science, decisionand-policy-makers and the real work managers and workers of local scale





What is coming up?

the present economic cataclysm and the climate change will (hopefully) teach everybody! sparing use of all resources to achieve some kind of sustainability of our existence (and coexistence with nature), These circumstances alone would allow the formulation of say two dozens of new calls in Energy and Environment.

In "water-and-environmental" sciences I would name the <u>following main group</u> of themes as those (advisably) coming up:

Diffuse or non-point source pollution also in relation to climate change.

Climate-change adaptation in the RBMPs of international river basins with special regard to water storage, drought-and-flood management, and resource sharing;



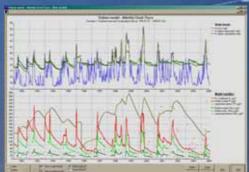


What is coming up? (continued)

Techniques and pilot-scale applications of ecohydrological methods in the sustainable use of decreasing water resources and in upgrading water quality and ecosystem functioning;

Combined hydrological/hydraulic, water chemical and hydrobiological **field measurement series**, to support routine-monitoring based decision-support type tools (securing funding-co-funding of follow up).









Ecohydrology

