Within the framework of IHP, small basin research in Europe is implemented in the IHP-FRIEND cross-cutting component, especially in the Northern European FRIEND Project 5 Catchment Hydrological and Biogeochemical Processes in a Changing Environment, and FRIEND AMHY. Additionally, European FRIEND research groups are linked within the scope of the Euromediterranean basin network ERB, and under the IAHS PUB initiative.

Continuously operating small hydrological research basins has often proven difficult in times of limited resources. However, long-term monitoring in hydrological research has reached a new rating due to the expected global warming impacts on water balances and availability, and consequently on environments and societies. Process studies and the integration of hydrological research findings from small study basins with their well-defined boundary conditions into model development may also gain in importance. With the recent Pan-European implementation of the Bachelor/Master Degree new tasks are expected to arise in capacity building.

The workshop will hence serve as a platform to assess the aspects connected with the questions “Where do we stand?” and “What are we heading for?” in the field of operation and research in small hydrological basins. The Workshop addresses, besides researchers working in small hydrological basins, extension or consulting services and administrative bodies covering hydrological and water management aspects to elaborate recommendations for future research and operation of small basins.

Objectives and Key Aspects of the Workshop

The workshop primarily aims at highlighting the overall hydrological research results and benefits to hydrology derived from work in small basins. Based on these deliverables, activities shall focus on questions concerning the need for further operation of small research basins and their role in meeting future challenges in hydrological research.

The workshop will comprise paper and poster presentations with discussion of the results in plenary sessions as well as working group activities. Working groups will be set up at the beginning of the workshop. All workshop participants will be invited to join a working group.

The workshop will be topically arranged in two parts:
1. Achievements and State of the Art
Papers and posters with oral presentations
1.1 Presently operated small hydrological research basins (key note);
1.2 Fundamental hydrological research results from studies in the operation of small basins;
1.3 Hydrological processes knowledge drawn from studies in the operation of small basins;
1.4 Importance of hydrological data and results from small basins for hydrological modelling (i.e. regionalisation, forecast of water balances e.g. due to changes in land use and of physical processes from changing water fluxes, high/low flow forecast).

2. Heading for Knowledge
Working groups with introductory papers
2.1 Concepts and strategies for future research in small basins (key note);
2.2 Research on hydrological processes: Which achievements are expected from research in small basins in the coming decades?
2.3 Which contribution to the monitoring and understanding of changes in physical processes, water fluxes, water balance and global warming effects is expected from hydrological small basin research?
2.4 Research in small study basins: What may be the scientific contribution to the PUB initiative and what is expected vice versa?
2.5 Do we need research results from small basins for the further development of mathematical hydrological models?
2.6 What future contribution to capacity building of specialists and researchers is expected from operating small study basins?

The main outcomes of the workshop will be included in a special Braunschweig Declaration that will point out future demands and challenges for scientific activity in the field of small-scale hydrology at the basin scale. The Declaration is meant to address scientists, professionals, stakeholders and policy makers as well as last but not least potential donors and invite them to start, continue or renew their support of research in small study basins and their maintenance.

Language, Proceedings and Publications
The working language of the workshop will be English. Extended abstracts of papers and posters will be pre-published for distribution at the workshop. The workshop proceedings will be post-published in the IAHS Red Book series.

Tentative Time Schedule
Monday, 30 March 2009
Morning Arrival, registration
Afternoon Part 1: Paper and poster sessions
Evening Reception
Tuesday, 31 March 2009
Morning Part 1 cont.: Paper and poster sessions
Afternoon Part 2: Working groups
Wednesday, 1 April 2009
Morning Part 2 cont.: Working groups
Afternoon Field trip
Evening Workshop dinner
Thursday, 2 April 2009
Morning Presentation and discussion of working group results in plenum

Field Trip
The scientific field trip will go to the Lange Bramke research basin. It will be complemented by questions of historical and present-day water management in the Harz Mountains. A guided walk through the old town and UNESCO world heritage of Goslar will be concluded by the workshop dinner where Harz gastronomic specialities will be served.

Registration Fee
The registration fee will amount to € 145 (including volume of abstracts, workshop proceedings, excursion and workshop dinner).

Accommodation and Meals
Participants will be accommodated full board for the duration of the workshop at a rate of € 255,– (three nights) in the conference hotel. Extension of stay is possible at a rate of € 49,– pP/ night incl. Breakfast.

Call for Papers/Posters
It will be possible to present papers and posters. Posters informing about current research in small basins are especially welcome. Authors of posters will be given the opportunity to introduce their posters briefly to the audience before the poster session.

Scientists are invited to pre-register and submit an abstract in WORD (Times New Roman 12pt., single-spaced, maximum one page) including title, author(s) name(s) and affiliation before 17.10.2008 electronically via internet (www.ws.small-hydro-basins.org) or e-mail to the organisers: abstracts@small-hydro-basins.org. Notification of acceptance will be given within two months after this date with an invitation to submit a revised and extended abstract of up to three A4 pages by 31.01.2009 for inclusion in the volume of abstracts, and to register for the workshop. Full papers including poster papers must be submitted after the Workshop by 30.05.2009 at the latest.

Participation in the Workshop and Pre-registration
The number of workshop participants is limited to 50. Potential workshop participants are invited to express their interest by pre-registering on-line via homepage (www.ws.small-hydro-basins.org) or by sending an e-mail to pre-registration@small-hydro-basins.org. Final registration will only be possible at the organisers’ invitation.

Homepage of the Workshop
www.ws.small-hydro-basins.org

Important Dates
17.10.2008 Submission of abstracts
30.11.2008 Notification of acceptance of abstracts
31.01.2009 Submission of extended abstracts
30.03 - 02.04.2009 Workshop
30.05.2009 Submission of full papers
Autumn 2009 Delivery of Workshop proceedings

Communication
Mr. Ulrich Schröder
Dr. Sybille Schumann
s.schumann@tu-bs.de
organisers@small-hydro-basins.org

or:

http://www.hahnenkleerhof.harz.de