

## 10th IWA International Specialized Conference on Diffuse Pollution and Sustainable Basin Management 18–22 September 2006, Istanbul, Turkey

This special issue is dedicated to the 10th IWA International Specialized Conference on Diffuse Pollution and Sustainable Basin Management held in Istanbul – Turkey in September 18–22, 2006. The *CONFERENCE* addressed the following main issues:

1. The increasing pace of environmental problems arising from non-point sources of pollutants which necessitates urgent and effective solutions, developed and progressed on local watershed basis, based on available scientific information and experience.
2. The European Union (EU) Water Framework Directive, the U.S. Clean Water Act, and similar policies which reflect the worldwide movement towards Integrated Watershed Management.

The Conference Topics were:

1. Integrated Watershed Management (Including EU Water Framework Directive)
2. Trans-boundary Pollution Management
3. Agricultural Pollution Abatement and Related Strategies
4. Forestry
5. Groundwater Contamination and Baseflow Protection
6. Pollution Monitoring and Experimental Studies
7. Ecotoxicology
8. Urban Drainage Systems
9. Marine and Coastal Area Problems
10. GIS Modelling and Remote Sensing
11. Policy Development
12. Social Issues
13. Economic Evaluations
14. Public Participation and Education
15. Institutional and Regulatory Framework

DipCon 2006 aimed to provide an opportunity to bring researchers, scientists, practitioners, sociologists, economists, and policy makers together for discussion of as many aspects as possible within the scope of the Conference topics. 220 papers were presented at the conference which was attended by more than 200 participants from all over the world. In this special issue 40 papers are included.

*The papers peer-reviewed by two experts included in this issue present recent scientific information and findings on the following issues:*

1. Integrated Watershed Management
2. Trans-boundary Pollution Management
3. Agricultural Pollution Abatement and Related Strategies
4. Groundwater Contamination and Base-flow Protection
5. Pollution Monitoring and Experimental Studies
6. Ecotoxicology
7. Marine and Coastal Area Problems
8. GIS Modelling and Remote Sensing
9. Diffuse pollution control technology

The authors and the guest editors expect that this issue will serve as a platform for disseminating information and recent data in the specific field of Diffuse Pollution. The Guest Editors would like to thank all the authors and co-authors, and also to extend their appreciation to the Editor of *Desalination*, Miriam Balaban for providing this unique opportunity. The contribution of the evaluators to the peer review process is gratefully acknowledged.

### **Guest Editors**

*Dr. Sureyya Meriç* holds B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Environmental Engineering from Istanbul Technical University (ITU, Turkey). She worked at ITU for 16 years in Environmental Engineering teaching and research activities as well as involved Post-Doc in research in the fields of Ecotoxicology (Cancer Research center, Naples) and Environmental Hygiene (University of Naples, Federico II, UNINA). She has been collaborating with Environmental Engineering Group of Salerno University (UNISA) for recent 4 years and with Ecotoxicology Research Laboratory of UNINA. She has developed expertise in treatment of water and wastewater, reuse, disinfection, disinfection by-products toxicity, activated sludge modelling, inhibition, industrial pollution control, water quality and management, aquatic and sediment toxicity monitoring, impact assessment of priority-emerging pollutants, xenobiotics and their removal by advanced oxidation processes, groundwater remediation. She has been investigator or co-ordinator of many national and international projects, collaborating with many institutions on drinking water and wastewater monitoring and treatment and marine sediment pollution and dredging technologies.

*Dr. Despo Fatta Kassinos* received her first degree from the National Technical University of Athens in 1993, Diploma in Chemical Engineering, her M.Sc. in Environmental Management from the European Association for Environmental Management and Education in 1995, (University of Athens, JRC Ispra), and her Ph.D. from the National Technical University of Athens in 1999. She has been a Lecturer at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Cyprus since 2003 while in 2007 she was promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor. Prior to this appointment, she worked as a researcher at the National Technical University of Athens, School of Chemical Engineering. From 2000 until 2004 she was also an inner circle expert of the European Topic Center of Waste and Material Flows of the European Environment Agency. Her principal research interests are in the field of environmental pollution monitoring techniques (water quality, xenobiotics in water and wastewater), wastewater treatment (e.g. anaerobic digestion, advanced chemical oxidation), environmental hazard analysis and risk assessment, and life cycle analysis of products and processes.

*Dr. Melike Gürel* is Assistant Professor at Istanbul Technical University (ITU), Environmental Engineering Department, Turkey. She obtained her degrees in Environmental Engineering, B.Sc. (1992), M.Sc. Degree (1994) and Ph.D. degree (2000) from ITU. She has been working in ITU, Environmental Engineering Department since 1994. She has worked in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ecosystems Research Division in Athens, GA USA in year 2001–2002 as a visiting scientist in the field of water quality modeling. Her current fields of interest are: eutrophication, water quality, water quality modeling, and integrated watershed management. She is a member of International Water Association (IWA), National Committee of Turkey on Water Pollution Control (SKATMK), and Chamber of Environmental Engineers, Turkey (CMO). Together with many national projects supported by either ITU or the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey, she has been taking part in 2 NATO-CCMS projects, 1 in NATO Collaborative Research Project and one European Union Project. She was the secretary of 10th IWA International Specialised Conference on Diffuse Pollution and Sustainable Basin Management Istanbul, Turkey.

*Dr. Ralph Heath* is a Divisional Leader of the Surface and Groundwater Division at Golder Associates Africa. He obtained his BSc from Cape Town University, an Honours and MSc from the University of Port Elizabeth and a PhD in Ecotoxicology from the Rand Afrikaans University. He is currently the chairman of the Diffuse Pollution Group of the International Water Association. His experience includes a wide range of surface water projects that range from Reserve determinations, catchment water quality situation assessments, catchment management strategy development, biological assessments, Habitat Integrity Assessment of rivers. He has further been the project manager of the National Toxicity Monitoring Programme for DWAF and is currently completing the Development of design criteria for fishways in South African rivers. He has also eight years of research experience in passive mine water treatment.