

# Restoring Europe's Rivers

**A new LIFE+ funded project has launch in Europe.**

**RESTORE** will share knowledge and promoting best practice on river restoration in Europe. The ECRR are working in partnership to delivery this project and provide advice to the partners.

**RESTORE** is a cost effective project protecting investment in our rivers by bringing together the **best information** available on river restoration techniques from across Europe. It will give policy makers, river basin planners and practitioners the **practical information** they need to restore rivers, improve habitats for wildlife and help meet the objectives of the Water Framework Directive.



**RESTORE** will collate information about different approaches and experiences in river restoration to better inform and support those involved in river management to achieve environmental objectives set by EC Directives. Project engagement in **RESTORE** will focus on three key audiences, that of policymakers, river basin managers and practitioners. The outreach target over three years (Sept 2013) is 90,000 people.

The main problem affecting **river restoration** practitioners is not a lack of expertise, but a lack of opportunities for sharing best practice and knowledge. The project will address this by holding sector-specific engagement events, field visits and a major international conference. Another key output will be an online **database of case studies** highlighting lessons learnt and best practice, and also key project contacts, which will continue to operate beyond the life of the project.

Case studies to be included from across Europe for example: Chinbrook Meadows, London



The RESTORE project is made possible with the contribution of the LIFE+ financial instrument of the European Community



and works in partnership with



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The programme will run until September 2013 and has **six partners** from five European countries working on the project.

**Environment Agency** (England and Wales), **Finnish Environment Institute** (Finland), **Government Service for Land and Water Management** (Netherlands), **Italian Centre for River Restoration** (Italy), **River Restoration Centre** (UK) and **Wetlands International** (International).

We aim to understand better the importance of river restoration and the barriers to achieving it. Then disseminate this information through events, seminars and our website. River restoration means working with nature to re-establish natural river systems. Activities which reconnect river channels with their natural floodplain will improve habitats and biodiversity and reduce flood risk to communities downstream.

**Please contact us** with any relevant information or case studies that should be included within the project. [restore@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:restore@environment-agency.gov.uk) for more information see: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/restore](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/restore) - the **project website will be coming soon**

## Up coming events include (all free of charge):

- **Norway – 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September.** 4th Nordic WFD conference and workshop, Hurdalsjøen (Norway) - Exploring the practical measures of the WFD implementation plans and what RR can contribute to them.
- **Sector event in Denmark, Monday, 03-05 October, 2011**  
Practitioner's view of the evidence base and knowledge exchange on river restoration. Email [jukka.jormola@ymparisto.fi](mailto:jukka.jormola@ymparisto.fi)
- **Event to be held during the Congreso Ibérico de Restauracion de Rios, 18-20 October 2011, Leon, Spain**  
For more information [email restaurarios](mailto:restaurarios) or visit the [restaurarios website](http://restaurarios.com)
- **Network event and preparatory event for the World Water Forum, 16-18 November 2011, Ljubljana, Slovenia**  
New knowledge and know how on rivers hydro-morphology, restoration and protection of water. See ECRR website

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