

The results of the Conference *Systems for Water Pollution Control* of the International Water Association



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November 2010



The 12th biennial International Conference on *Systems for Water Pollution Control*, organized by the International Water Association (IWA) took place in Venice, Island of San Servolo, from 4th to 9th October 2010.

More than 300 participants attended the Conference, coming from Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, Spain, USA, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, England, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Nord Korea, South Korea,

Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Scotland, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Hungary, Uruguay and Venezuela.



The conference showed that constructed wetland systems are recognized as reliable treatment technology for many types of wastewater around the world. Several components of the “black-box”, i.e. particular transformation processes for specific substances, start to be identified precisely giving more chances of predictability and modeling to Constructed Wetland systems. Constructed wetlands are appropriate systems for advocacy by international agencies such as WHO, other UN Agencies, the World Bank, and have been

developed on projects for wastewater treatment in less economically developed countries.

The conference revealed that it is still necessary to identify and describe with a deterministic approach a considerable part of the group of simultaneous physical-chemical and biological processes which are responsible of the different substances fate into a constructed wetland system and to disseminate the knowledge in developing countries.

Also, there is a need to test constructed wetlands with respect to pollutants such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products, surfactants or heavy metals, as well as to go further with the identification of suitable filtration media in order to enhance phosphorus removal in different operative sceneries.

The participants were encouraged to submit their papers to Water Science and Technology journal. Additional papers selected by the conference organisers will also be submitted for possible online publication in Water Practice and Technology. The constructed wetland issue is still being intensively studied and, therefore, new findings are continuously reported.

The next conference on Wetland Systems in Water Pollution Control will be organized in November 2012 at Murdoch University, Perth, Australia.

