

**World Lake Basin Management Initiative
ILEC/LakeNet Regional Workshop for Europe, Central Asia & the Americas**

**“Sharing Experience and Lessons Learned in
Lake Basin Management”**

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

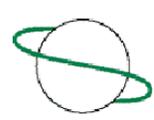


18-21 June 2003
at Saint Michael's College and the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain
Burlington, Vermont, USA

Introduction

This invitation only, four-day workshop will be the first of three regional workshops to be conducted by the International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC) and LakeNet, under a multilateral “Lake Basin Management Initiative” Project which is financed by the Global Environment Facility and implemented by the World Bank. The other two Regional Workshops will be held in Africa and in Asia, later in 2003. Under the guidance of the Lake Basin Management Initiative’s Project Management Team, Project Secretariat and local partners, LakeNet is responsible for organizing and facilitating this regional experience sharing and review workshop for *Europe, Central Asia & the Americas*. The workshop will also be held in connection with the 10th World Lakes Conference and the grand opening of ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain.

Selected representatives from the following lake regions will be invited to present a case study about their experience and early lessons in lake basin management: Aral Sea, Baikal, Ohrid, Peipsi, Constance/Bodensee, Issyk-kul, Sevan, Titicaca, Nicaragua, Champlain, Great Lakes and Tucurui Reservoir.



Workshop Objectives

The overall objective of the Lake Basin Management Initiative is to strengthen capacity for improved lake and reservoir basin management at local, provincial, national and global levels. To achieve this, the project will assess and draw lessons from the achievements and implementation of several GEF (14) and non-GEF (14) lake basin management projects.

The specific purpose of the regional experience sharing workshops is to increase local capacity for lake basin management by facilitating the exchange of lessons learned and sharing of experiences as well as to solicit supporting information among professionals and stakeholders working on lake basin management issues. This regional experience sharing workshops will also provide a multi-stakeholder forum for discussing and refining the draft experience briefs for project lakes in Europe, Central Asia and the Americas.

The target audience for the regional review workshops includes professionals and stakeholders actively engaged in lake basin management projects. The workshops will also include papers prepared by experts and stakeholders from and/or affiliated with various lake basin management programs.

Provisional Program

The four-day workshop will begin on Wednesday, 18 June 2003 and end on Saturday, 21 June 2003. Invited participants are expected to arrive in Burlington, VT on Tuesday 17 June and depart on 22 June 2003. A provisional program is provided as an attachment and can also be found at http://www.worldlakes.org/docs/provisional_program.pdf.

The workshop is also being planned as a pre-conference activity for the convenience of those who will be traveling to Chicago joint meeting of the International Association of Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) and the International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC), encompassing the 10th World Lake Conference, will be held in Chicago starting on Sunday evening, 22 June, through noon on Thursday, 26 June. *Invited and sponsored participants for the regional workshop should not assume that they will also be sponsored to attend the World Lakes Conference unless this is specified in your invitation letter and travel arrangements have been approved by your sponsor.*

ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain will open to the public at the end of May 2003 with a series of events, including a reception for participants of the Regional Workshop for Europe, Central Asia & the Americas.

Preparation for the workshop

Invited workshop participants will be asked to participate in a presentation of a lake experience brief, coordinated by lead authors for each lake region, and to actively participate in discussion sessions to review and provide feedback on other lake experience briefs.

Venue

The workshop will be held on the campus of Saint Michael's College near Lake Champlain in Colchester, Vermont USA. Excursions and workshop sessions are also being held nearby at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain in Burlington, Vermont. Saint Michael's College is a ten-minute taxi ride from the Burlington International Airport.

Registration

Registration materials will be forwarded to participants via e-mail, or if not available, via fax. No registration fee will be charged for invited participants. Participants are kindly requested to submit the enclosed registration form to the LakeNet Secretariat by 30 May 2003.

Travel and Visas

Invited participants are responsible for making their own economy class travel arrangements to attend the meeting, the cost of which will be reimbursed by LakeNet and Saint Michael's College. Participants will be given a small daily allowance for other incidental costs and will be responsible for any costs associated with personal travel or expenses during their stay in the U.S., including phone calls and meals not included in the program. Transportation to local workshop events will be provided by the hosts. E-mail letters of invitation will be sent to all invited participants, except for those who indicate on their registration form that faxed or original invitation letters are needed for visa purposes.

Accommodations

St. Michael's College is providing overnight accommodations for all invited participants in on-campus housing. The on-campus housing is within walking distance of the meeting venue. The rooms are arranged in suites of 4-6 rooms with 1-2 shared baths. Telephones and internet connections will be available. Participants will be assigned a room in a suite with others of the same gender.

Hotel accommodations are also available during the workshop for an additional fee. The difference in cost is the responsibility of the participant. Group shuttle service will be provided to and from the meeting venue each day from the hotel. Please contact LakeNet for details and reservations.

Meals

All meals will be provided during the workshop as indicated in the provisional program. Most meals will be served in the cafeteria on the college campus, except during excursions and other special events.

Language

English will be the language of the workshop. Simultaneous interpretation in Russian and Spanish will also be provided.

Contact information

For more information about the workshop contact:

LakeNet Secretariat
300 State Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21403 USA
Tel: 410-268-5155
Fax: 410-268-8788
Email: info@worldlakes.org
Website: www.worldlakes.org

Lake Basin Management Initiative Contacts:

LakeNet Secretariat
Dr. David Read Barker, Senior Advisor
Email: drbarker@worldlakes.org
Website: <http://www.worldlakes.org>

International Lake Environment Committee Foundation
Dr. Masahisa Nakamura, Project Director
Email: nakamura@lbri.go.jp
Website: <http://www.ilec.or.jp/>

Lake Basin Management Initiative Sponsors

Global Environment Facility
Netherlands Water Partnership at the World Bank
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Workshop Organizers & Sponsors

City of Burlington, Legacy Project
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