

The FLOODmaster Programme – an Integrated Flood Risk Module for University Study

Christian Bernhofer

Institute of Hydrology and Meteorology, TU Dresden,

D-01062 Dresden, Germany

christian.bernhofe@forst.tu-dresden.de

The interest in floods typically depends on their frequency. Rare intense floods that generate high losses are often neglected due to their stochastic nature and limited data base for investigation. They need therefore a special treatment both in research as well as in teaching. At the Dresden University of Technology teaching of integrated flood risk management is incorporated in the Master Programme “Hydro Science and Engineering” by a bundle of courses and workshops under the title “Flood Risk Management of Extreme of Floods - FLOODmaster” beginning in April 2004. In the spring term FLOODmaster will consist of (i) an introductory workshop, (ii) a weekly course in “Sources, Pathways and Reception Areas of Extreme Floods” (3 cr = credit points awarded), (iii) a workshop on risk management of flash floods (2 cr), and (iv) an excursion to a frequently flood prone area, e.g. the Tizza catchment (3 cr). In the fall term the FLOODmaster modules will consist of (i) a weekly course in “Flood Risk Management” (3 cr), (ii) two workshops on risk management of riverine floods and coastal floods, respectively (2cr each), and (iii) a workshop of actors including scientific coverage of the interactions between the actors (2 cr). A flood risk oriented study project will conclude the programme (7 cr).

The FLOODmaster modules will be open to other students of the Dresden University of Technology, e.g., students in hydrology or civil engineering as well as to students from abroad and professionals. To successful students a FLOODmaster certificate will be awarded, that incorporates all courses (24 cr). Materials developed will be adapted and included in the EU funded programme FLOODsite, web based material will serve as a central source of information. After the first semester (September 2005) and after the first year (March 2006) student evaluations will be made available. Mid of March 2005 the enrollment to the course reached about 80 students and professionals, their feedback will be a very valuable source for the further development of the programme.