

## rivers of knowledge bulletin #8, Oct. 2010

» *Water is life.* «

*Subtitle of the film »Flow«, 2009*

Water is life and climate change is threatening our entire sweet-water-based civilization. One outcome of the project until now is a dramatically raised consciousness about this topic amongst all participants. Designer Sophia Muckle said: »This is without any doubt the most important project I have ever worked on.« Since the presentations in July we have dug deep into the knowledge of further specialists. A memorable meeting was, when we met Mr Petri, one of the leading ornithologists of our region, discussing the options of bird species to be settled at our »bird's nest-tower« at Bürgel. We hadn't expected half of what's possible: Minerva's owls, merls, storks. »Our region has lately become one of the most important breeding areas for crows.« Mr Petri said. And he reminded us of the simple fact that: »rivers attract birds«. Climate change has had some positive impact on bird-life as it has become warmer and birds, that are »survival machines« profit from that simple fact. Ute Habelt concludes: »Well, we might establish a bird-hotel.« The bird team by now counts on ornithologists Bernd Petri and Rolf Weyh, designer Martin Wenzel, Ute Habelt of office for environmental affairs Offenbach and myself.

On Oct 28<sup>th</sup> we'll have the final presentation of the object design project, while the graphic design and communications project at the Universities has just started on Oct 20<sup>th</sup>. Prof. Sascha Lobe and I are driving it. It had been a simple question of resources that we hadn't been able to start both projects simultaneously. It has nevertheless become more and more evident how important communications are, and our local activities, such as the presence of Mrs Günther at Klesterbach's market place and Mühlheims activities in the context of kindergardens have shown that we can count on a strong support from the citizens. Climate Change is an important topic, but it has to be communicated in an appropriate way in order to reach our target groups. Thus tools of communications, such as the climate box, which has been launched lately and the local information stands will play a decisive role in the mix which will be enriched by the new German website Klimaroute.de which is projected to be launched by mid-December. Klimaroute.de will offer the entire range of information on the project including events, talks, lectures and activities in our region. It will be connected to social networks and with its news oriented approach will offer the possibility to immediately react to news and events. The establishment of the klimaroute.de team in September signified a new step in our communications activities.

Reinhard Henke, Volker Bannert, Sabine Richter and as an intern Sabrina Kaeschner are driving the development together with me. While I serve as editor in chief the IT-team is setting up the technical structure and the back-office.





## Klimaroute für Alle. Klimawandel und Flüsse verstehen lernen.

[Kalender](#)
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**Gedanken im Fluss**

- **Befreundete Flüsse**
  - Tajo
  - Indus
  - Markarljot
  - Amazonas
  - Okavango
  - Kizilirmak
  - Yukon
  - Main
  - Düna
- Geplanten Stationen
- Flüsse und ...
- Aktive Kommunen
- C-Change in Europa
- Klimawandel und Flüsse



**Leben mit dem Indus**


Fatalismus ist eine Lebensform an einem Fluss, der durch den Klimawandel noch unberechenbarer wird als er schon immer war. Für Harvard-Professor und Wasserbauingenieur John Briscoe ist daher der wichtigste Punkt, dass es keine EINE Lösung für Flutprävention geben kann, es geht um ein Bündel fein abgestimmter Maßnahmen. Ob dies unter den politischen Bedingungen ...




**Klima am und durch den Fluss**

Ein Strom vom Format des Indus ist nicht nur eine Auffangrinne für Niederschläge in seinem Einzugsgebiet, neu, er macht selbst auch Klima – und zwar


**Barrierefrei**

About us 


**Bürgeraktivitäten**




**Retter der Zukunft**




**Wichtige Aktivisten:**  
**John Thackara**



**Heftige Klimawandler**  
**Oktober: Die Kuh**



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Planungsverband Ballungsraum  
Frankfurt/Rhein-Main

One of the first concept-charts of the future website klimaroute.de shows the basic idea at a glance. We relate climate change to 1. The sources of emission 2. The impact on rivers. The interactive aspect, such as "Retter der Zukunft" for kids or the Citizens activities connect the site to life in the streets and homes.

The website is being developed and hosted by the Planungsverband. Once online we'll integrate further partners, amongst them the DWD (Deutscher Wetterdienst, German Met Office) and the municipalities. We are just about to start a road show on that co-operation topic. On one hand it is integrating the diverse communications activities of municipal PR offices, the Planungsverband's information and our ongoing design projects. On the other side it is offering an interactive platform for the communication between activists and official players in this highly important field. It will also substitute the Bulletin from January on, when we will be able to inform you on a daily and hourly pace.



Mr Adam, one of the key-figures in Dietesheim's more than 900 years old Fisheries-Guild throws the net for us to explain what sustainable fishery means to them. Photo: Anne Schleißner

One of the key events of the last weeks was the meeting with the Fisheries-Guild at Dietesheim. We needed their support to build our information station on fish and climate change in an area that belongs to them.



Transport, hydropower and river regulation have destroyed most of the natural breeding-grounds for fish. Who would know better than the fishermen and women. Thus they have become an important source of knowledge to us.

Dietesheim which is part of Mühlheim plays an important role in the entire project as our information station is part of what the Municipality calls Green Classroom. Green Classroom means that green topics are addressed in front of children and adults with diverse educational backgrounds but this area will also serve as a recreational compound at the riverside. Our project will serve as a focus point within this structure.

Our next steps will be characterized by planning, political discussions and interaction with specialists. We are also starting to prepare the first public presentation of the complete design proposals from January 13<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> in Frankfurt. The presentation will be held in the context of COOP, a joint project of a series of Art Schools at a central building due to





refurbishing from Feb 2011. So we have a huge space for the presentation for free. Technical equipment will be sponsored by the local event-, stage- and concert supplier Satis & Fy.



Planning the first public presentation for January together with Angela Carvalho, a sustainable design specialist from Rio de Janeiro and Petra Kellner at Frankfurt's former Diamantenbörse office building, now to be remodelled as an apartment complex in the city centre.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bertsch'.

Prof. Georg-Christof Bertsch  
Frankfurt/Main, 9. September 2010