

OKP Newsletter

August 2020



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Back on track

August 2020, Delft

Dear partners,

This is already the third edition of our monthly OKP newsletter. Summer vacation is ending, which marks the start of a new academic year. A year that starts with a lot of challenges in education and research. Using online tools has become the new 'normal' around the world and we're glad to see the facilitation of research, trainings and workshop and many other activities being organized online in both Vietnam and Myanmar.

In this issue, besides the news, upcoming activities, 'Get to know us' section and the opportunities for professional development, we feature some feedback from the MDF course, which was attended by 10 of our partners from both Myanmar and Vietnam. We furthermore interviewed Chit Yan Toe, MMU lecturer, about his experience at an IHE short course in Delft. Finally, we introduce the SIWI World Water Week, organized for the first time online! The online version of this event allows you to join it from the comfort of your home, for free. Be sure to take advantage of that opportunity.



OKP Vietnam: News and (planned) activities

Check out [this article](#) on Institutional Collaboration during Covid-19 in Vietnam by Delft Global Initiative

TU Delft support on ongoing research at HUNRE

TU Delft is planning on supporting HUNRE in some interesting research initiatives in the coming months. The first is developing lab standards for isotopic analyses, in collaboration with the team of Dr. Le. Furthermore, we're looking into using Dutch lab facilities to determine the age of the paleo-riverbed through optically stimulated luminescence (OSL), in collaboration with Professor Nhan. Stay tuned!



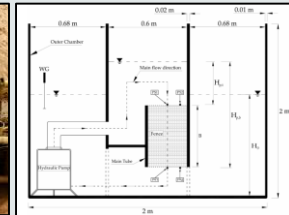
Contribution SIWI World Water Week

On the 26th of August, research initiatives of OKP Vietnam and Myanmar will be featured in a session at the online [SIWI World Water Week](#). Juliette, the Resident Project manager Vietnam of TU Delft, will

contribute to the session *Solving the Water-Climate-Puzzle by connecting youth stories and decision-makers*. She will explain how student research initiatives such as monitoring the water quality of West Lake and measuring rainfall distribution through soda bottle science contributes to solving this Water-Climate-Puzzle. The session will take place from 13.00-13.45 CEST (=18.00-18.45 VN time; 17.30-18.15 MMR time) and is free to join online! Click [here](#) for more information or see page 7 of this newsletter.

Experimental Assessment of the Flow Resistance of Coastal Wooden Fences

HUNRE lecturer Tung Dao and his co-authors Bas Hofland, Marcel Stive and Tri Mai published his paper in the highly acclaimed open source [Water](#) journal (5-year impact factor 2.7). In this study, Tung applied the law of fluid flow by forcing a constant flow of water through different setups of bamboo fences and measuring the loss of hydraulic pressure over a fence thickness. His findings can be used for real-life nature based solutions such as sediment trapping bamboo fences. You can download and read the article [here](#).



You can find more information about collaboration on the TU Delft-Vietnam website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/citg/vietnam/>

OKP Myanmar: News and (planned) activities

Guest Lecture Alwin Commandeur

On August 18th, Alwin Commandeur, Flood Resilience consultant, gave an online presentation on the Pan Hlaing River & Sluice project of Royal HaskoningDHV. Within the Zoom presentation, 47 participants joined from YTU and MMU. These included both staff and students. He explained about the technical design criteria and modelling, as well as the socio-economic conditions, taking the audience through the different phases of such a project.

Alwin also introduced Royal HaskoningDHV as a leading engineering consultancy and explained what is it like to work for an such a firm. He particularly enjoys applying his technical knowledge in an international environment for a wide range of clients. There is furthermore much room for personal development.

Are you interested in (re-)watching the presentation? You can watch the recording! Contact J.L.F.Eulderink@tudelft.nl for the download link.

Online Guest Lecture MMU & YTU
Design of Pan Hlaing Sluice & Water Control Work for an engineering consultancy
Alwin Commandeur
18 August 2020
Open

Technical Design Criteria & Modelling
Hydraulic Conditions

- Tide
- Discharges

Working for an engineering consultancy

- Technical knowledge
- Client oriented / socially involved
- Business development
- Personal development
- Also outside work
- Working / travelling life

Online training E-coli testing kits

On August 4th, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and TU Delft associate professor Thom Bogaard organized an online E-coli test training. In a Zoom session, Thom explained to an audience of MMU researchers how to take samples and use the E-coli test kits. The knowledge will be applied in the Nga Moe Yeik reservoir project, where the team will be taking samples. This large reservoir is used for the Yangon freshwater supply.

E-coli testing

Powder growth medium packs

reusable clip

100-mL Stand-Up Whirl-Pak™ Thio-Bags™

Compartment Bags

E-coli testing

Clean the cup from the end of the stick with sterile water

You can find more information about collaboration on the TU Delft-Myanmar website: <https://www.tudelft.nl/myanmar/>

Participants rated the course with an average 8.2/10

MDF online course Writing Winning Proposals

From 11-14th August, staff from Yangon Technological University (YTU), Hanoi University of Natural Resources and Environment (HUNRE) and Thuyloi University attended the MDF course 'Writing Winning Proposals'.

"My favourite part was the mind mapping exercise. You can use the tool for your team to exchange and set it free of all aspects which are popping up in our mind before you start writing the proposal. I also like result change and theory of change parts because it helps us determine the logical order of need and problem analysis, activities, output, outcomes and impact." – May Ei Nandar Soe, coastal engineering expert YTU

"This course was very useful. As a researcher in a 'developing country', we have a lot of calls each year to apply in addition to traditional government-based calls." – Thi Van Le Khoa, Water Management expert HUNRE

"In my current work this knowledge will help me improve my writing skills, especially when writing proposals. I have never had the chance to study this content before, so it is very useful for me. I have gained skills and experience after the course." – Nguyen Phuong My, International Cooperation Thuyloi University

"My favourite part of the course was analyzing and making a results chain" – Tinh Pham Hong, Coastal management expert HUNRE

The trainers were rated with an average 8.6/10

"We did exercises like mind mapping, results chains, practicing with structuring paragraphs, using concept notes. These were useful." Win Win Zin, Hydrology expert YTU



Course program: Day 1+2

Tuesday 11 August	
TOPIC	METHOD
Introduction, objectives and program	Web-meeting: Session 1 introduction
Step 1. Know your Organisation	Home-based writing exercise
Step 2. Know your Donors Grants	Web-meeting: session 2
Step 3. Go/No-Go decision	Donor exploration Exercises & Go / No Go



SIWI World Water Week @Home



This year, the World Water Week will be organized online! The event will take place between 24 and 28 August 2020. WWWeek At Home will bring together convenor-hosted, virtual adaptations of sessions on water and climate change originally destined for World Water Week 2020. The sessions are free to join from the comfort of your home!

For the full programme, visit <https://www.worldwaterweek.org/>

Some programme highlights:

How to join

1. Create an account at <https://www.worldwaterweek.org/>
1. Browse the WWWeek At Home programme
2. Identify which sessions you wish to join
3. Click on the individual session
4. Find registration link and/or registration instructions

Date & Time	Session	Why it's interesting	Link
Wednesday 26 th August 8-8.45 CEST	Achieving Water Security and Resilience in Asia Pacific: AWDO 2020	The session will share the 2020 water security findings from Asian Water Development Outlook and discuss water-related climate risks	Link
Wednesday 26 th August 10-10.45 CEST	Sinking, shrinking, saltier deltas; How to deal with these issues?	Co-organized by the Delta Alliance and Deltares; Examples from South East Asia including the Mekong delta in Vietnam	Link
Wednesday 26 th August 13-13.45 CEST	Solving the Water-Climate-Puzzle by connecting youth stories and decision-makers	Session includes examples from OKP Vietnam and Myanmar in the 'Research' themed breakout session (presented by Juliette Eulderink)	Link

Chit Yan Toe attended the short course Computational Intelligence in Operational Water Management between March 2 - March 20, 2020.

The responsible professor was Dimitri Solomatine, Professor of Hydroinformatics at IHE Delft



Chit's IHE short course Computational Intelligence in Operational Water Management

About the short course

I learned the basic components of data-driven modelling, optimization, neural networks and how to use these tools in water management. The most interesting part was the mathematics behind computational intelligence. I really enjoyed the optimization algorithms. I strongly recommend this short course because it can upgrade your knowledge. The participants consisted of many international students who followed the regular MSc course, and a few short-course trainees. The professor was very knowledgeable and good at explaining, which was great.

Life during the short course

Normally I spent the days with lectures at IHE and when I had free time, I visited professors and colleagues from TU Delft. I also spent time with old friends. The trips were really nice in terms of accommodation and there was good support from IHE. During the weekends I recalled memories by looking around Delft and Den Haag. This was really fantastic!

What's next...

I am looking for an opportunity to apply my newly acquired knowledge in research. For example a research in rainfall forecasting, discharge forecasting or river morphodynamics. I also want to share my knowledge with my students at Myanmar Maritime University.

Get to know us!

In each newsletter, we will introduce three of the Dutch OKP partners. In August we introduce Erik, Marcel and Martine!



Name: Erik de Ruijter van Steveninck
Current position: Senior Lecturer Aquatic and Marine Ecology, IHE Delft
Main expertise: Tropical coastal ecology, Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
Passionate about: Music, nature, and my granddaughters
Contact: e.deruijtervansteinck@un-ihe.org
Role in OKP projects: Project Director OKP project ICZM for sustainable development in Central Java; teaching ICZM and Ecosystem functions and services in Myanmar and Mozambique
Favourite thing about South-East Asia: Social and cultural atmosphere, the people and their food



Name: Marcel Stive
Current position: Professor coastal engineering, TU Delft
Main expertise: Coastal and estuarine science, engineering and management
Passionate about: My grandchildren, safaris and cycling
Contact: M.J.F.Stive@tudelft.nl
Role in OKP projects: Capacity building in coastal and estuarine education
Favourite thing about South-East Asia: People's kindness, the culture and the long history



Name: Martine Rutten
Current position: Associate professor Water Resources, TU Delft
Main expertise: IWRM, citizen science, remote sensing
Passionate about: Mountains, dancing
Contact: M.M.Rutten@tudelft.nl
Role in OKP projects: Capacity building in IWRM and supervision of PhD students
Favourite thing about South-East Asia: Eagerness to learn and develop, humor, nature, the food and the climate (especially during the Dutch winters).



Opportunities

What is EdX?

[EdX](#) is a **platform for education** and learning. Founded by Harvard and MIT, EdX contains courses by the majority of top-ranked universities in the world and industry-leading companies.

What are MOOCs?

MOOC stands for **Massive Open Online Course**. They are online courses aimed at unlimited participation and open access via the web.

Selected EdX MOOCs:

Free online courses on a range of topics, available at any time:

IBM
Analyzing data with
Python

Click [here](#)

Queen's University
Watershed Systems and
Their Influence on Water
Movement and Quality

Click [here](#)

Hong Kong Polytechnic
University
Introduction to Urban Geo-
Informatics

Click [here](#)

Chalmers University of
Technology
Sensing Planet Earth –
Water and Ice

Click [here](#)

MIT
Qualitative Research
Methods: Conversational
Interviewing

Click [here](#)

University of British Columbia
Urban Water - Innovations
for Environmental
Sustainability

Click [here](#)