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### Building partnerships for public access to research

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#### Living Knowledge Website

[www.livingknowledge.org](http://www.livingknowledge.org)

The newsletters are archived on the Living Knowledge website. Please recommend this newsletter to your colleagues and partners. You can subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter by sending a message to [C.F.M.deBok@uu.nl](mailto:C.F.M.deBok@uu.nl).

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### 3<sup>rd</sup> Living Knowledge Conference

*Extended deadline for proposals: 13 May 2007*

Due to the request of participants of the coming 3<sup>rd</sup> international Living Knowledge conference in Paris (30 August - 1 September) the deadline for the submission of proposals for a presentation or a workshop is now extended until 13 May 2007. Up to now 65 proposals (55 presentations, 10 workshops) coming from 20 different countries have been submitted.



The conference will provide a forum where information on community based research, carried out in both community and academic settings, can be shared and developed. It will reflect the social impact and scientific and democratic value of research from a range of disciplines including social, natural, physical and technological sciences. This conference will be of interest to people who are active in, or interested in, the field of community-based research.

The main conference themes will be:

- University engagement with communities
- Citizens' science and social movements
- Research policy - from local to global
- Innovation - added values for communities
- Participatory processes in science and technology

The official languages of the conference will be English and French. The conference will include plenary sessions, oral presentations, workshops, and a marketplace with a poster session. Practitioners from non-governmental organisations (NGOs), research institutes, universities (both academics and students) and science and society policy makers are invited to share their experiences and to submit a short abstract for a presentation or a workshop related to one of the conference themes.

Please send us a short description of the workshop and the organisation/person in charge. [You can use the form on the Living Knowledge website to submit your proposal](#) ([www.livingknowledge.org/lk3](http://www.livingknowledge.org/lk3)).

Proposals for presentations or workshops must be submitted **before May 13, 2007**. Notifications of acceptance will be sent until May 30, 2007. Accepted proposals will be published.

Registration forms, detailed descriptions of the themes are available on the conference websites ([FR](#) [EN](#)) or at the website of the International Network of Science Shops: [www.livingknowledge.org](http://www.livingknowledge.org).

For more information about the conference please contact [citizens-research-LK3@sciencescitoyennes.org](mailto:citizens-research-LK3@sciencescitoyennes.org).



### Science Shop at Shanghai Fisheries University

*On the afternoon of March 25th, at the Green Land in Zhabei District in Shanghai, the "Association of The Volunteers in Shanghai University for Science Popularization" (The Science Shop) of Shanghai Fisheries University (SHFU) was established. This is the second Science Shop in China. It followed the first in East China Normal University.*

The Science Shop of SHFU, relying on its premier subjects, will set up 7 volunteer service departments close to the residents' life. They include: the Department of Food Safety and Detection, the Department of Food Nutrition and Health, the Department of Water Environment, the Department of Drinking Health, the Department of Aquatic Science, the Department of Tutorship to small or medium size corporations in community and the Department of Information Technology. Among them, three departments (the Departments of 'Food Safety and Detection', 'Food Nutrition and Health' and 'Aquatic Science') have started operation as the first groups, thanks to the great support and help from Shanghai Science and Education Commission. The Service Departments of SHFU, operating in



the communities, will proceed from reality to meet the urgent needs in residents' life. They will solve the scientific problems related to the residents' life, including the effect of microwave heating to vitamins in vegetables, the storage methods to keep vegetables and fruits fresh, the comparison of the residuum examination in silver craps' head and body, the measurement of toxic index in milk products and the control of goldfish's common diseases.

Mr. Pan Yingjie, president of SHFU, said that SHFU will exalt its advantages of specialities and solve actual problems raised by the local residents, benefiting the residents by helping them walk into science.

It is reported that Shanghai Science Commission has listed the establishment of the Science

Shops into the 11th Five-year Program. Therefore, from 2006 to 2010, ten colleges and universities will closely cooperate with the communities to set up more Science Shops in Shanghai.

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### 'Spiel-Fläche' – A game simulation of the main factors of land usage

*Although efforts in the research and description of the causes and effects of land usage in Germany have increased, it is not possible to speak of a turning point in dealing with the limited "land surface" resource. One of the main reasons for the still dramatic land usage is a lack of awareness of this specific problem in broad parts of civil society.*

As far as political and civil society strategies for the reduction of land usage are built on a legitimating consciousness, the project "Spiel-Fläche (game area) – a computer game to sensitise and mobilise for sustainable land usage" aims to develop an Open Source computer game especially for younger citizens to raise to the public awareness. The development and co-ordination lies to the Bonn Science Shop, the technical transfer will be executed by the agency "chromgruen". This cooperation follows the constellation of the finalised project of visualisation of land-use change in the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, as shown at [www.flaechennutzung.nrw.de](http://www.flaechennutzung.nrw.de). The current co-operation is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany.

At the end of the two-year long developing period there will be a playable prototyp of a computer game, simulating the main correlations of ecological, climatic, urban and economic factors of land usage. The main task for the single player is to reduce the surface's sealing by handling several fiscal, planning, participating and economic instruments. The basic idea of the intended mobilisation is to give an impression of possible ways out of the still ongoing land usage by a simple simulation of real interacting factors.

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### Territorial intelligence and governance

*The Second Annual International Conference of Territorial Intelligence – focusing on governance – will take place in Huelva, Spain, from October, 24th to 27th, 2007*

This international conference will analyse the challenges that the territorial governance of the present democratic societies impose to the research activity on themes that are linked to the sustainable socioeconomic development. These challenges affect as the subjects that are analysed as the used methodologies, the results transfer processes and, even and more important, the research topics.

In this context, the challenge of the territorial intelligence is to design and diffuse research methods and tools that facilitate the multidimensional approaches that are able to involve actors who have very different natures (partnerships) and that allow generating and managing the knowledge in a participative way, by intensifying the dialogue between science and society, research and action, by favouring the appropriation of those knowledge by the territorial actors and by the people and by contributing to the territorial governance improvement.

The Conference of Huelva in October 2007 is precisely focused on the debate about these topics and especially on the participation potentialities and limits, as well as on the difficulties of this principle implementation in the territorial research-action framework. The debate is still open

The planned thematic fields for the communications at the conference are the following:

- A. The participative research-action that is applied to the sustainable territorial development.
- B. Application of the methods and tools of participative research-action to the sustainable territorial development.
- C. Analyse of Participative Research-Action Experiences that are applied to territorial projects diagnosis, programming, management and evaluation.

For more information, please see [www.territorial-intelligence.eu/?file=index&lang=en](http://www.territorial-intelligence.eu/?file=index&lang=en) or contact Blanca MIEDES UGARTE, [miedes@uhu.es](mailto:miedes@uhu.es)



### Linking Networks on Health and Environment

*The Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) and the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) in Europe invite to participate in a newly launched partnership.*

These organizations have entered into a partnership to raise the level of public and professional dialogue on the impact of the environment on human health to further strengthen transatlantic and international work.

The Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) is a diverse network of over 2700 individual and organizational partners in 42 countries and 48 states, working collectively to advance knowledge and effective action to address growing concerns about the links between human health and environmental factors. [www.healthandenvironment.org](http://www.healthandenvironment.org)

The Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) is a nongovernmental organization based in Brussels, Belgium, that aims to raise awareness of how environmental protection and sustainability improves health. It achieves this by creating opportunities for better representation of citizens' and health experts' perspectives in the environment and health-related European policy-making. Its members represent more than 50 citizens', patients', women's, health professionals' and environmental organizations across Europe. HEAL has a strong track record in increasing public and expert engagement in both EU debates and the decision-making process. [www.env-health.org/](http://www.env-health.org/)

Shared interests include developing stronger relationships with patient, health professional and scientific organizations and individuals and in furthering precautionary approaches to the management of environmental contaminants. They intend to share a wide range of scientific, technical, and human resources to avoid duplication and to deepen the resource base available to partners in both networks. Interested people or groups can participate by joining the new HEAL/CHE-Europe Listserv, by signing up the monthly HEAL newsletter or by becoming a member. The newsletter is focused on environment and health developments in Europe, from governmental policy to scientific conferences, important publications and other significant events, as well as the wider public debate, including consensus between stakeholders,

To join the HEAL/CHE-Europe listserv, please contact Frieda Nixdorf, at: [frieda@healthandenvironment.org](mailto:frieda@healthandenvironment.org). HEAL's monthly e-newsletter provides timely information on important environmental health announcements, policy news and events happening in the European Union. To sign up for the HEAL e-newsletter visit: [www.ephpa.org/list/?p=subscribe&id=5](http://www.ephpa.org/list/?p=subscribe&id=5). For more information about becoming a member of HEAL, please contact Genon Jensonat: [genon@env-health.org](mailto:genon@env-health.org)



### The Future of our Species

*EMBO/EMBL Conference on Science and Society, Heidelberg, 2-3 November 2007*

What is the future of the human race, and how is it intertwined and in competition with the rest of life on earth? Such questions interest not only experts, but increasingly the general public, especially as the certainty and probable consequences of global warming loom ever larger. But that is only part of the equation. How do we see humans evolving in the context of technological improvement? Where will the course of evolution by unnatural selection take Homo sapiens next?

The European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) invites to discuss these and many more topics in a multidisciplinary and international Science & Society conference.

'The Future of our Species - evolution, disease and sustainable development' takes place on 2-3 November 2007 at the EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany. Please visit the following webpage for further information on the programme, and to register for the conference: [www.embo.org/scisoc/conference07.html](http://www.embo.org/scisoc/conference07.html)



### Science Shops

#### New Flyer, EU Website and Brochure

The EC printed a new flyer on Science Shops. This flyer focuses on different target groups, universities, students, citizens groups and local authorities. The flyer can be downloaded from the Living Knowledge website ([www.livingknowledge.org](http://www.livingknowledge.org), see section News). Printed copies can be ordered for free at the European Commission from [monica.menapace@ec.europa.eu](mailto:monica.menapace@ec.europa.eu). The new Science and Society portal of the European Commission was launched on 14 November 2005. It replaces the previous Science and Society website. The portal is open to all news and organisations related to Science and Society <http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/>

[home\\_en.cfm](#).

Still available at the old EU website are specific pages with general information about Science Shops as well as the minutes and single contributions of two Science Shop workshops organised by the European Commission ➔.

### Living Knowledge Database

Over the last few years, there have been many requests for an overview of organizations and people active in community-based research. The Living Knowledge database will fulfil these needs.

The Living Knowledge Database is a free, public accessible resource for Science Shops and alike organizations, community-based (research) organizations, universities and policy makers worldwide. It is searchable on (type of) organization, people, country and (thematic) expertise in community based research, all over the world.

If you are an active organization dealing with community-based research, you are invited to add your information to the Living Knowledge Database at [www.livingknowledge.org](http://www.livingknowledge.org). Please send your remarks on or questions about the database to the [International Science Shop Contact Point](#). We need your feedback to optimise the use of the database.

### FAQ's on Science Shops

The EC project TRAMS will deliver training and mentoring tools to support new and existing Science Shops and alike organisations. One of these tools is the section Frequently Asked Questions on the [Living Knowledge website](#). This FAQ section is a dynamic section. If you have any additional answers please feel free to contribute to the development of this section.

### Conferences

June, 17th-21st, 2007, Naples, Italy  
How to design and organize public deliberation, CIPAST Training Workshop, [www.cipast.org](http://www.cipast.org)

30 August to 1 September 2007, Paris, France  
Communities building knowledge: Innovation through citizens' science and university engagement, 3rd International Living Knowledge Conference, [www.livingknowledge.org](http://www.livingknowledge.org)

For links and more conferences related to community based research, science and technology and science communication see 'news' and 'agenda' at the Living Knowledge-website [www.livingknowledge.org](http://www.livingknowledge.org)