Management and partnerships of public and community waters

As the failure of privatisation has become evident, the time has come to refocus the water debate on how to improve and expand public water delivery around the world. The workshops under this theme will focus on how to develop democratic, participatory, social and environmentally sustainable public models to ensure universal access to water and sanitation. 'Public' means more than public authorities and public water operators. Where public authorities fail to serve communities, they often organize themselves to build and manage their own people-centered water systems. - Solidarity-based partnerships among public operators as well as with communities are increasingly becoming popular. Why is this so? How to upscale such partnerships? How to finance public water for all? All workshops aim to build stronger alliances among civil society groups, trade unions, communities and public water operators in order to advocate for public and community control over our water systems.

1. Community-based solutions for water management

Thursday 15 March 2012, 10am – 12.30pm, Cabaret Rouge 3

Chairman and chairwoman: Martin Seidl and Valérie Valette

Civil society, from the poorest members to the most privileged, can form together and take back the right to water. Effective methods and bold initiatives exist and can promote on-field participatory and equitable management of resources.

When it’s impossible to obtain public services and when the collective demand for water is high, concrete and innovative experiences show that in countries like Peru, Paraguay, Benin and even Belgium, alternative solutions can be created by and for communities.

Program

1- **Landscapes Compensating reservoirs of water – Portugal – Tamera Center**
   Martin Winiecki, Leila Dregger, Charly Rainer Ehrenpreis
   contact: solarvillage@tamera.org

2- **Lac Nokoué project - Benin – Emmaüs International**
   Patrick Atohoun, Oswald Quintal, Stéphane Melchiorri
   contact: s.melchiorri@emmaus-international.org

3- **Yrovi project - Paraguay – Asociación Tekoha**
   Ceveriano Silva, Pawel Wiecheteck
   contact: pavlos1492@hotmail.com

4- **From conflict to partnership : The commons in the middle of the landscape – Belgium – Etats-Généraux de Bruxelles – Dominique Nalpas**
   contact: dom.nalpas@cassiopea.org

5- **Social management of water and environment - Peru – AGUA-CI**
   Asociación para la Gestión del Agua en Cuencas – Fanel Guevara Guillen
   contact: fgg53@hotmail.com