



Climate or land use change – identification of future main factor influencing water management. Narew River Basin (NRB) case study

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Outline



- Background & Objective
- Hydrological model SWAT
- Development of land use change scenarios in the SCENES project
- Climate change scenarios
- Scenario impact on hydrological indicators
- Conclusions & Outlook



Objective



- To investigate the effect of climate and land use change on various hydrological indicators in a large semi-natural river basin
- Tools & Methods:
 - Hydrological model SWAT
 - Land use change scenarios elaborated within a framework actively involving stakeholders
 - >GCM-based climate change scenarios



Background – SCENES project



 EU-FP6 IP SCENES "Water Scenarios for Europe and for Neighbouring States"



- Nov 2006 Apr 2011
- 23 partners from 17 countries
- Similar methodology applied at three levels: pan-European, regional and local (pilot areas)





SWAT model – main features

Soil & Water SWAT

- River basin scale model consisiting of hydrological and water quality components
- Distributed, physically-based, continuous time model coupled with GIS
- Its main purpose is to quantify the impact of land management practices in large, complex river basins





Modelling approach in SWAT



- HRUs unique in terms of land cover, soils and slopes
- Vertical water balance at HRU level => runoff generation at sub-basin level => routing through the stream network to the main outlet



SWAT in SCENES



- In SCENES project SWAT has been applied in the NRB in order to elaborate long term quantitative water scenarios
- Pros: popularity, free of charge, water quantity and quality in one modelling system
- Specification of inputs using readily available data
- Calibration & validation of the hydrological component for the period 2001-08 with daily time step
- Recalibration for the climate normal (baseline period) 1976-2000
- Water quality modelling ongoing



Results: calibration plots



- Mean Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE) for 11 calibration gauges
 Calibration period: 0.68
 - Validation period: 0.57



Results: spatial validation







- Scenario development workshops: 4 workshops organized in the NRB during 2008-2011
- **Five steps**: 1. Characterising present and near future; 2. Developing future visions; 3. Critical review of developed visions; 4. Backcasting; 5. Quantification for modelling purposes
- Stakeholder participation: more than 40 people representing various sectors
- Combination of different methods: all involving stakeholders



Scenario development methods





Main drivers and their importance



| Driver | 2008 | 2025 |
|---|------|------|
| C1; Flood protection | 4,9 | 4,7 |
| C2; Water quality in lakes | 6,4 | 7,4 |
| C3; Water-sewage management | 8,4 | 7,9 |
| C4; Nature valuable areas | 7,4 | 8,4 |
| C5; Spatial planning | 6,9 | 8,3 |
| C6; Land amelioration systems | 6,4 | 4,8 |
| C7; Impact of agriculture on water status | 7,8 | 6,9 |
| C8; Agriculture | 5,3 | 6,9 |
| C9; Tourism | 6,1 | 8,1 |
| C10; Role of forest | 5,3 | 6,2 |
| C11; Transboundary co- operation | 4,4 | 5,4 |
| C12; Water retention | 7,3 | 7,1 |

Giełczewski et al. Journal of Water and Climate Change, 2011





Storylines for selected scenarios



Sustainability First

- Most plausible and desirable scenario
- Agriculture and food industry as main sector – small scale ecological farms
- Importance of environmental policies

Markets First

- Not likely to happen, requiring a push by an external factor to go this direction
- Agriculture and food industry as main sector – intensive, profit-oriented
- Liberalisation of environmental policies





- Objective: translation of qualitative visions (SF & MF) into model scenarios
- Best judgement by experts not reproducible and not transparent
- Adaptation of the method proposed by Alcamo (2008) – a 3-step protocol for converting qualitative into quantitative knowledge
 - Specifying qualitative trends of driving forces
 - Developing a translation key
 - Computing numerical trends of driving forces to use them as model input



Driving forces



- 11 questions asked to stakeholders focused on the future changes in:
- (1) land use (especially agricultural and built-up areas)
- (2) amount of fertilisers applied in agriculture
- (3) percent of **irrigated grasslands** and **drained arable** land
- (4) amount and treatment level of **municipal and industrial wastewater**
- Two scenarios (SF & MF) and two time horizons (2025 & 2050)
- NRB divided into 4 sub-basins to account for spatial variability of drivers



Quantification of drivers – forested areas



Scenario Qualitative Question: What will changes SF MF be the future 2025 2050 2025 2050 change in forested **Upper Narew** ++0 - areas? Region Biebrza + 0 -Masurian Lakes 0 + _ _ - -Lower Narew 0 + **Numerical trends** Upper Narew quantification 300 (10³ ha) 250 200 150 Area 100 e.g. a small increase in forested area 50 is from 5 to 10% (in 25 years) 0 2025 2050 2000



Quantification of drivers – built-up areas



Question: What will be the future change in **built-up areas**?

| | Qualitative | Scenario | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------|------|------|------|
| | changes | SF | | MF | |
| | | 2025 | 2050 | 2025 | 2050 |
| | Upper Narew | + + | + | +++ | + |
| lon | Biebrza | + + | + | ++ | + |
| Yeg | Masurian Lakes | ++ | + | ++ | + |
| | Lower Narew | + + | + | +++ | + + |

Numerical trends





Quantification of drivers – grasslands



Question: What will be the change in percent of agricultural area used as grasslands?

| | Qualitative | Scenario | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------|------|------|------|
| | changes | SF | | MF | |
| | | 2025 | 2050 | 2025 | 2050 |
| | Upper Narew | +++ | ++ | 0 | - |
| | Biebrza | +++ | ++ | 0 | - |
| 202 | Masurian Lakes | +++ | ++ | 0 | - |
| | Lower Narew | +++ | + | 0 | |

quantification

Numerical trends









| Land use type | SF | MF |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Forests | Small increase | Large decrease |
| Built-up | Medium increase | Large increase |
| Grasslands | Large increase | Small decrease |

- Small spatial variability within scenarios
- Next step: making simulation runs in SWAT



Climate change scenarios

- Two GCMs used
 - ➢ IPSL-CM4, France
 - ≻ MIROC3.2, Japan
- Each coupled with the A2 SRES emission scenario (choice made by SCENES stakeholders)
- Delta change approach applied for bias correction
 Difference between future (2040-2069) and reference (1976-2000) climate
- Variables: temperature and precipitation (not C0₂ levels)
- Acknowledgements to CESR Kassel





Projections for 2050s (basin-averaged)





Changes in annual runoff, Q10 & Q90









Conclusions & Outlook

- SWAT model works in the NRB (scale issue)
- An approach of converting qualitative into quantitative scenarios (e.g. of land use change) tested
- Considerable impact of climate change
- Large climate modelling uncertainty (in this region)
- Impact on environmental flows?



Central Eastern European SWAT Workshop Introductory & Advanced



Date: 27 June to 1 July 2011

WULS-SGGW Water Centre

Warsaw, Poland

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Introductory and Advanced SWAT Workshops will be led by Dr. Raghavan Srinivasan, Texas A&M, USA.

Introductory SWAT:Standard: 300 €Student: 150 €Advanced SWAT:Standard: 200 €Student: 100 €

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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE





Thank you!

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