

## We need your help!

- ✘ Tell us your stories and share images\* of drought and water-use by:
  - ✘ **Post:**  
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[www.http://dryproject.co.uk/our-uk-river-catchments/ebbw/](http://dryproject.co.uk/our-uk-river-catchments/ebbw/)
- ✘ **Join discussions online** via our forum:  
<http://dryproject.co.uk/forums/>
- ✘ **Tweet your images and memories** of past and current droughts, and local water-use on the Ebbw river:  
@Project\_DRY
- ✘ **Join a workshop** to share your view points about water management, drought and water-use in the Ebbw area:  
Tel: +44 (0)117 32 87024
- ✘ **Take part in our questionnaire** about domestic water-use:  
<http://dryproject.co.uk/about-the-project/community-water-survey/>

This project runs up to the end of 2017.

\*All materials will be returned.  
If possible, please send copies of images and original materials.

The images on the front of the leaflet are photographs of the River Ebbw at various levels. They are printed courtesy of Ian Brewer, Newport.

In this catchment our activities involve project team members from:



University of the West of England



Centre for Ecology & Hydrology  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

We are working closely with these external organisations to incorporate their expertise:



Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru  
Natural Resources Wales



The DRY project is funded by:



E · S · R · C  
ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL



Arts & Humanities Research Council



## Drought Risk and You: Afon EBBW





# Drought in the UK - we need your stories and experiences to inform future policy

## Drought Risk and You

Droughts and water shortage affect us all through impacts on the environment, agriculture, infrastructure, society and culture.

The Drought Risk and You (DRY) Project is looking at the impact of drought on seven river catchments in England, Wales and Scotland.

The project will exchange knowledge among communities in the catchment and drought scientists. In a series of workshops we will record the views of local people as they tell us their stories of drought and water-use.

We are working closely with local organisations to design the research and incorporate their expertise.

### Did you know...?

- A drought is a natural event usually resulting from prolonged shortage of rainfall.
- Droughts differ in their severity and impacts due to duration, physical geography and human uses of land and water.
- The most memorable drought in the UK was in 1976; a result of a dry winter followed by one of the hottest and driest summers on record.
- Drought can sometimes increase the risk of subsequent flooding, such as when heavy rainfall occurs after a drought has killed vegetation or very dry soil is unable to soak up rainfall.



## Why the River Ebbw?

- The area has a complex history of different industrial usage (mining, steel, forestry) which plays a role in local communities' relationships with the river.
- Drought could exacerbate fire and erosion on the commons.
- The River Ebbw is close to a major new development, The Circuit of Wales, which could affect water management in the area.
- There are many community groups and 'river observers' with local knowledge of water management issues and impacts.

"Human beings are storytelling animals and by introducing storytelling into discussions about drought and water-use, we bring fresh, previously unheard voices into the conversation"

Michael Wilson (Loughborough University)

