

# Symposium: Telecoupled Waters

*Social-ecological Regulations, Feedbacks & Governance*

**Date:** 09.10. - 11.10.2024

**Location:** Frankfurt/Main, Germany

**Convener:** ISOE – Institute for Social-Ecological Research, Project ‘regulate’

**Format:** Input presentations, interactive discussion formats and excursions

## Context

New long-distance processes transcend local hydrological and administrative boundaries to impact groundwater systems. The perspective of telecoupling (Liu et al., 2013) highlights the interconnectedness of groundwater systems beyond traditional local considerations, emphasizing the importance of acknowledging telecouplings in groundwater management. (Luetkemeier et al., 2021; Merz et al., 2020). At the same time, (co-)producing transformation knowledge in a context of telecoupling comes with particular challenges related to spatial and temporal distances and power relations between those involved (Zaehring et al., 2018). It raises particular demand for reflexivity on boundaries and knowledge flows in research and governance of groundwater.

## Symposium

The Junior research group ,regulate’ ([www.regulate-project.eu](http://www.regulate-project.eu)) will host a symposium to explore the implications of water in telecoupled systems<sup>1</sup> from an interdisciplinary perspective. We offer a 2-days forum for researchers in this emerging field to exchange thoughts, experiences and ideas on how to ensure the sustainable management of water in times of increasing telecoupling influences. The symposium will provide plenty of room for discussions with short input presentations from all participants on the following topics:

1. **Telecoupled flows: Political, social, economic, data and legal reciprocities**  
*Julia Sizek, University of Oregon*  
*Dženeta Hodžić, ISOE*
2. **Systemic feedbacks in human-water interactions and the role of spill-over systems**  
*Thomas Kastner, Senckenberg Biodiversity & Climate Research Centre Frankfurt*  
*Robert Luetkemeier, ISOE*
3. **Accepting and acting in complex telecoupled water systems under uncertainty**  
*Heindriken Dahlmann, IRI THESys*  
*Linda Söller, Goethe University Frankfurt*
4. **Ecological implications from telecoupling interactions**  
*tbd*  
*Anne Jäger, Technical University Kaiserslautern-Landau*
5. **Shifting patterns of conflicts over water issues via telecoupling**  
*Nick Bourguignon, University of Barcelona*  
*David Kuhn, ISOE*
6. **Boundary work and transformative governance in management of telecoupled waters**  
*Rebekka Kanesu, Trier University*  
*Fanny Frick-Trzebitzky, ISOE*

<sup>1</sup>The notion of ‘telecoupled systems’ serves as a boundary concept to bring together diverse perspectives concerned with groundwater in distal and dynamic spatial and temporal relations. Participants are invited to expand as well as to challenge the idea of ‘telecoupling’.