

**Twinning Agreement Under the UNESCO HELP Network**  
**between**  
**the Murrumbidgee River Basin HELP Committee**  
**and**  
**the Davao River Basins HELP Network<sup>1</sup>**

**Background**

HELP is a joint initiative of the United Nations Educational Scientific Organization (UNESCO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Following the recommendations of the 5th UNESCO/WMO International Conference on Hydrology (February 1999), HELP is led by the International Hydrological Programme. The HELP International Steering Committee recommended during its meeting in September 2004, the twinning of HELP basins. The TWINBASIN<sup>XN</sup> project aims at facilitating such twinning arrangements, by defining a framework for action, by enabling the move of staffs between twin agencies and by capitalizing the knowledge thus acquired.

**Agreement**

The Murrumbidgee River Basin is a *World Demonstration HELP Basin* (seen as demonstrating best practice in HELP and IWRM, with something to offer other basins) and the Davao River Basin is a *Operational HELP Basin* (an established basin which may become a World Demonstration Basin in due course) have agreed on entered into a twinning agreement to:

- Sharing knowledge and experience among the twinned basin stakeholders,
- Building capacity by providing formal and informal education opportunities through reciprocal hosting of decision makers and water experts
- Technology transfer through joint funding applications to regional and international bodies

The twinning agreement will be approved and coordinated by the Murrumbidgee HELP Twinning Committee and the Davao HELP Twinning Network.

The twinning agreement from here on shall be known as "HELP Murrumbidgee and Davao" and will follow the HELP philosophy and the twinning recommendations for HELP river basins.

The twinning agreement shall also follow the INBO (International Network of Basin Organizations) protocol and the Moa of Understanding for the TWINBASIN<sup>XN</sup> Project.

This agreement is signed on this day 20 FEB 2006 by:

**Murrumbidgee HELP Twinning Committee**

**Davao HELP Twinning Network**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dr Shahbaz Khan (Coordinator)**

  
**RICARDO L. CALDERON**

**OIC, Regional Executive Director**  
**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**  
**Region XI, Davao City**

<sup>1</sup> The Help Davao Network has been operating informally since the start of 2004 and the main actors include City Government of Davao represented by City Planning and Development Office, City Council Chair of the Council for the Environment, Dept of Environment and Natural Resources, Dept of Agriculture, Nat Economic Development Authority, University of the Philippines, PCEEM, CRS and KFI. PCEEM is the acting Secretariat for the Network.