

Preface

The present issue sums up results of the research project "Heavy Metal Pollution And Its Ecological Effects" carried out in 1987.7-1990.12 in Dexing Copper Mine region, Jiangxi Province, China.

With an aim to understand and assess the extent of metal pollution and its ecological impacts on the aquatic ecosystems for developing viable strategies to control pollution, field surveys together with laboratory work were carried out in different seasons during that period.

Identification and description of metal pollution relating chemical data with some hydrological and biological data were made to assess metal pollution. Main physico-chemical processes occurring in the ecosystems as well as the site-specific sediment criteria were studied.

A seminar was held in Lushan, Jiangxi Province, China, in March, 1989, with participation of scientists from Beijing, Nanchang, Heidelberg, Hamburg-Harburg and Dr. W. Salomon, consultant from the Netherlands. Exchange visits of scientists took place in 1988 and 1989. Field surveys (1989 and 1990 Spring) were carried out by Chinese and German scientists jointly. In 1990, five Chinese scientists worked 1-6 months in Germany (Heidelberg, Hamburg-Harburg, Karlsruhe) and in the Netherlands.

There are more than 20 scientists and a few engineers from RCEES, NIAT, University of Heidelberg and Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg participated in this project. The main scientists are: Profs. Liu Jingyi, Tang Hongxiao and German Müller; Associate Profs. Mao M.Z., Lin Y.H., Lin Z.H., Zhu N.K.; Assistant Profs. Dai Z.H., Luan Z.K., Wang Z.H. and Drs. W. Schmitz, W. Ahlf.

The following articles begin with the summary of the project CERP C-2 and the other 15 papers which include the results of pollution source studies, main physico-chemical processes and the assessment of metal pollution on the aquatic systems.

This project will be continued for the next few years and more results are to be expected.