Assess ecological risks of toxicants with the UP-DOWN risk assessment approach

Matthias Liess

• Retrospective risk assessment identifies relevant traits and processes in ecosystems related to toxicant vulnerability in a top down approach.
• Prospective risk assessment applies these building blocks to predict ecosystem effects of toxicants in a bottom up approach.
• Starting from ecosystem effects enables to identify field relevant processes; Effect predictions can be validated with ecosystem effects.

Example of bottom up prediction:
SPEAR approach

Examples of relevant building blocks:
- Migration
- Life cycle
- Sensitivity

Contact:
M. Liess, Dept. System Ecotoxicology
Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ
Leipzig, Germany  matthias.liess@ufz.de