

INTERNATIONAL  
**RiverFoundation**

**Riverprize**  
IRF EUROPEAN

Danube - 2008 Thies International Riverprize Winner



# Our Invitation



The International RiverFoundation rewards and gives recognition for the restoration and sustainable management of the world's river basins. Our flagship program is in awarding the Thies International Riverprize each year, the largest environmental prize globally, to organisations implementing and achieving best practice in river basin management.

Visionary leadership by all levels of government, large and small business, individuals and environmental organisations, all working in long-term partnerships, have made great advancements to the management of water and river basins in Europe.

These achievements are to be celebrated and shared through the European Riverprize for the first time, presented in Vienna, on September 12, 2013.

Open to all organisations, the IRF European Riverprize is awarded to the river basin that can demonstrate outstanding management of water resources and builds on the European pedigree of previous Thies International Riverprize winners; the Thames, the Danube, the Mersey and the Drome.

An all-European panel of experts from professional, academic and scientific disciplines assesses applications based on an integrated approach to river management, evidence of social and economic gains, a long-term vision and demonstrated, outstanding achievements in river ecology.

During this United Nations Year for Cooperation in Water, the IRF is inviting a select group of thought and practice leaders to participate in the management, funding and promotion of the event. The Riverprize has a unique prestige and an enduring legacy. This is an opportunity to be the first to engage in a landmark program that builds stronger relationships with the businesses, governments and civil society organisations that share your organisation's commitment to sustainable water and river basin management.

I invite you to join us, in this, the inaugural European Riverprize.

**Professor Gary Jones**  
**Chairman**

# Which countries are eligible?

Albania  
Andorra  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Bosnia & Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg

Macedonia  
Malta  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Montenegro  
The Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Turkey  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom



# European Riverprize



In order to highlight the importance of integrated river basin management in Europe, the IRF has formed a partnership with the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) and the European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR) to deliver the IRF European Riverprize.

The IRF European Riverprize will celebrate successful approaches that have overcome the challenges to river restoration, ecosystem health, water quality and climate change within the social and political context of the European continent.

Judged by a panel of European experts and administered from the IRF Europe office in Vienna, the first European Riverprize will be awarded at the ECRR and RESTORE annual conference in Vienna on Thursday 12 September, 2013.

Applications will be assessed based on a documented river management framework, evidence of social and economic gains, an integrated approach to river management, long-term vision and demonstrated, outstanding achievements in river ecology.

Participation is open to all organisations, including business, government and civil society, who are engaged in the sustainable management of waterways from the Ural Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean. The winner of the IRF European Riverprize will automatically qualify as a finalist in the Thies International Riverprize in the following year.

**“With a pedigree of previous international winners including European rivers such as the Mersey, the Thames, the Drome and the Danube there is every chance that the European winners will also take out the International Riverprize”**

Professor Paul Greenfield  
Head of International Riverprize Judging Panel



# Partners



The IRF is forming a select group of partners to support and develop the European Riverprize in addition to associated activities.

Businesses, Governments, Foundations and other interested parties willing to support the European Riverprize are being sought after to:

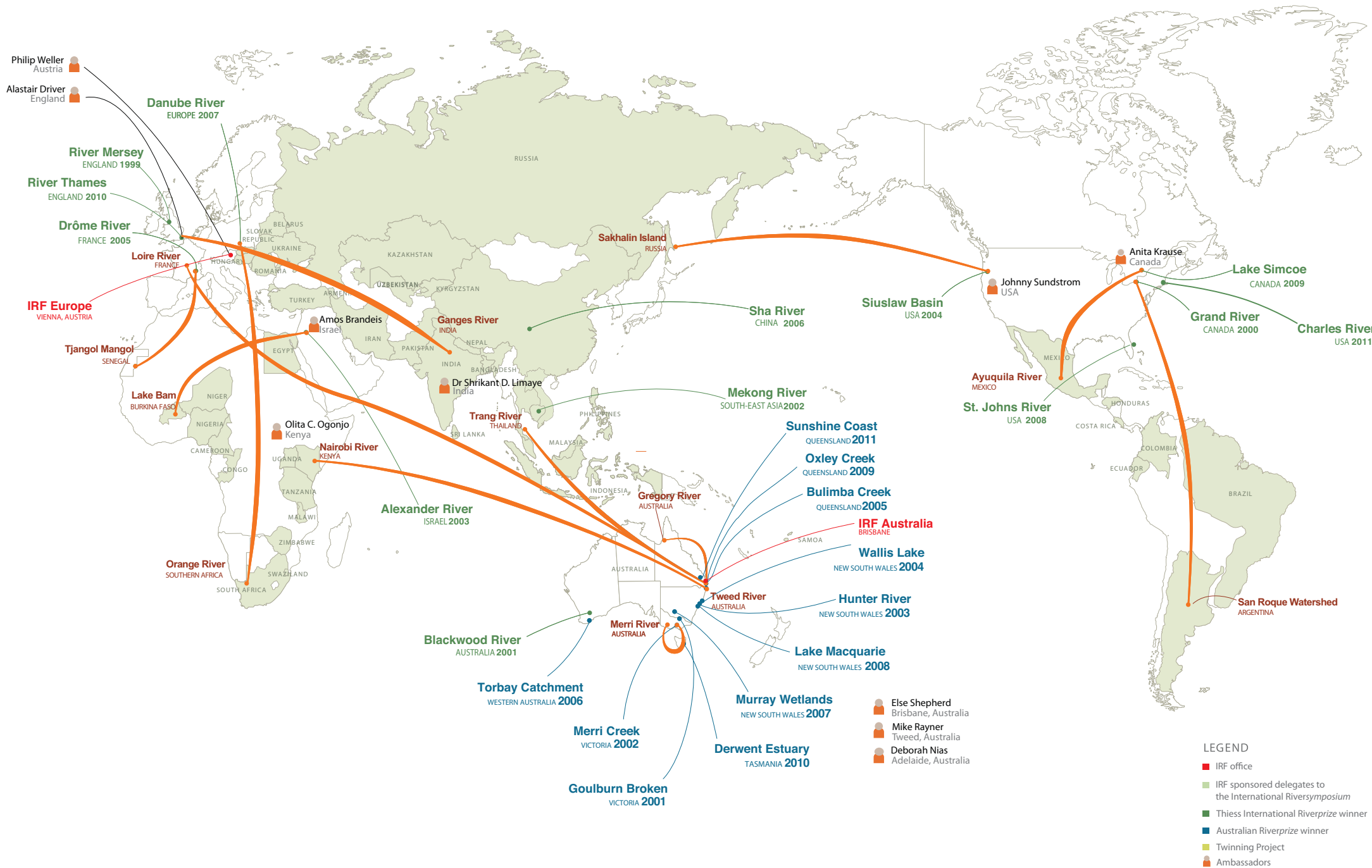
- Be a partner in the IRF European Riverprize
- Participate in the European Riverprize Gala Dinner
- Participate in the ECRR and RESTORE European conference

We are also seeking partners and participants in:

- Twinning activities associated with the IRF European Riverprize
- Supporting and jointly developing other activities of benefit to the promotion and realisation of river restoration and protection
- Assisting to build support for the communication of the restoration and protection of river basins

**“The International RiverFoundation is building a global community of best practice including expert consultants, academia and on-ground practitioners to build knowledge exchange and the transfer of information leading to best-practice river basin management”.**

# Global Footprint of International RiverFoundation





# Who is the International RiverFoundation?

International RiverFoundation (IRF) works in partnerships around the world to fund and promote the sustainable restoration and management of river basins. As an international dynamic public benefit organisation, we have a life-changing impact on individuals and communities. By helping restore and sustainably manage rivers we have achieved improved health, ecological, economic, and social outcomes for people and the environment.

IRF acts as a catalyst for replication of effective river system management around the world and promotes long term relationships between developed and developing countries around sustainable river basin management.

We are funded through corporate and government investment and deliver programs with philanthropic and aid agency funding.

IRF's global network of programs, ambassadors and alumni extends to more than thirty-five countries and offers investors global connectivity to world-class initiatives and partnership opportunities.

**“The outstanding Riverprize projects have shown the world that through many partners working together, it has been possible to resuscitate some of the world’s most famous rivers for the benefit of wildlife and people. But this is just the start. We need more and we need bigger.**

Alastair Driver  
Conservation Manager, Environment Agency

Thames - 2010 Thies International Riverprize Winner



# Contacts

To learn more about how your organisation can support the European Riverprize, please contact one of the people below or email [info@riverfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@riverfoundation.org.au).



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# Partner Organisations



## Restoring Europe's Rivers



[www.riverfoundation.org.au](http://www.riverfoundation.org.au)