

## **“ACTIVE PARTICIPATION – A TOOL TO RECONNECT PEOPLE WITH THEIR WATER ENVIRONMENT”**

Herbert Dreiseitl  
Atelier Dreiseitl, GERMANY

Water restoration in cities needs long term visions and radical decisions. Something that is in our western political culture hard to realize, partly because of today's short-term-minded political atmosphere. This allows for only small steps controlled by compromise. On top of that, where money is often limited, only projects of first priority have a change to be realized.

An often forgotten but important reality is the ability for public involvement to bring vital issues to a top priority level. People have enormous power and their knowledge and awareness of their waters can save or destroy the urban environment. How can we realize this potential and take people in their dreams, hopes and wishes serious? For over 25 years landscape architect and artist Herbert Dreiseitl and his team have contributed to many outstanding and sustainable water projects in cities. He has developed a specific way to integrate and encourage the creative potential of citizens through public workshops. In his presentation Mr. Dreiseitl will give insight on this process which has enabled him to realize his progressive projects in cities worldwide.