



RPF	
Role	Funding Agency and Programme Manager
<p>The Research Promotion Foundation (RPF) is the only national research and innovation funding agency of Cyprus. RPF has developed a wide range of activities, which fall under two main categories:</p> <p>(a) Financing Research Projects through the Design and Launching of the National Competitive Programmes. This activity aims primarily at enhancing research, technological development and innovation (RTDI) in Cyprus and moreover at increasing the critical mass of researchers and research projects undertaken in Cyprus. The main instruments for achieving these goals involve the launching of competitive programmes developed and monitored by RPF. The related funds come from the Cyprus Government budget and, as from 2007, from the Structural Funds of the European Union.</p> <p>Since 2003, the Foundation has created an umbrella for its National Programmes, the “National Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Innovation” (DESMI in Greek).</p> <p>As a Programme Owner, the Foundation has been involved in a number of ERA-NET projects since the 6th Framework Programme and in a number of Joint Programming Initiatives.</p> <p>(b) Promoting the Participation in European Research and Innovation Programmes and other Initiatives. The Foundation is responsible for the participation of Cypriot organisations and scientists in European research and innovation programmes (Framework Programme, COST, EUREKA), the cooperation with international organisations supporting research activities and the preparation and implementation of bilateral RTD agreements / protocols between Cyprus and other countries. The RPF has the overall responsibility for the coordination of activities relating to the Horizon 2020 Programme (as it has been doing since 1999: 5th, 6th and 7th Framework Programmes). It coordinates the network of National Contact Points and representatives of Cyprus in the various Programme Committees, provides information, organises information days and provides advice and customised assistance to researchers. RPF has also been actively involved in a number of EC funded projects, including various NCP projects</p> <p>Website: http://www.research.org.cy/EN/index.html/</p>	

Leonidas ANTONIOU		
Function	Director - National Programmes Sector	
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Areas of expertise	Mr. Leonidas Antoniou has a background in urban and regional development and planning, and is the head of the National Research Programmes Unit of the RPF. His main duties involve the development, monitoring and evaluation of the RPF’s national research programmes. He is a member of the High Level Group for Joint Programming (GPC), the Advisory Board of ERA-LEARN2020 and the European RTD Evaluation Network.	

	He also chairs the Implementation Group “Monitoring JPIs” of the GPC. He represents Cyprus in the in the Governing Board of JPIs WATER, CULTURAL HERITAGE, FACCE and URBAN EUROPE.
Role in Water JPI activities	Governing Board representative / voting member Participation in Pilot Joint Call, Cofunded Call WaterWorks2014, Cofunded Call WaterWorks2015 WatEUr Partner

Anna Maria CHRISTOFOROU		
Function	Scientific Officer	
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Areas of expertise	<p>Dr. Anna Maria Christoforou has a chemistry background and is a Scientific Officer in the Research Infrastructure Unit working on both National and European Funding Programmes since June 2008. Through her position she has extensive relevant experience in preparation of Call for proposals, evaluation of proposals, contract preparation, project management and evaluation of Projects.</p> <p>She has experience in European programmes as she held the position of the Cyprus NCP for the “Health” Thematic Priority and the “IDEAS” Specific Programme of FP7. She has been actively involved in a number of EC funded projects and has extensive project management experience as the Coordinator of the 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2013 “Researchers’ Night” Projects in Cyprus.</p>	
Role in Water JPI activities	<p>Coordination / Leadership / Partner in the different types of activities: Governing Board representative / Technical Advisor Participation in Pilot Joint Call, Cofunded Call WaterWorks2014, Cofunded Call WaterWorks2015 WatEUr Partner</p>	