

06.  
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## WATER JPI HAS LAUNCHED ITS STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA

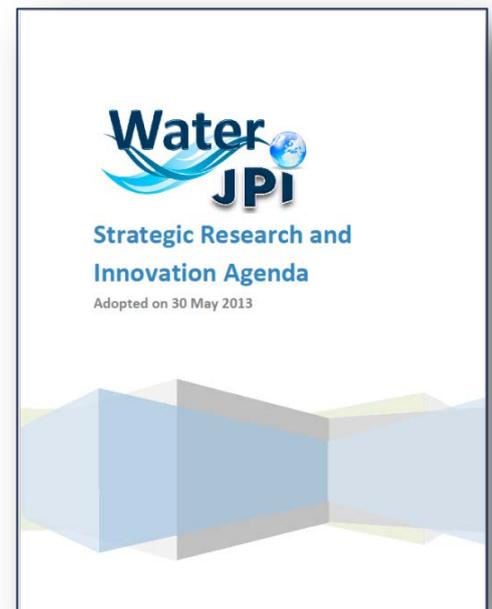
*The publication reflects the consensus the Water JPI Governing Board members reached in May 2013 and represents the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda v.05. Its drafting and publication was made possible under the framework of the project "Tackling European Water Challenges" (WatEUr), an FP7 Coordination and Support Action.*

*This is a very important milestone for the Water Research and Innovation community in Europe.*

*Our SRIA is a collective, shared and forward-looking exercise identifying and prioritising directions for Research, Development and Innovation. Moreover, it is intended to guide the development of Water JPI activities in 2013 and 2014, to keep stakeholders informed of our plans, and to contribute to sustaining an effective, mutually beneficial dialogue with Horizon 2020.*

*Following the Vision Document, the SRIA describes five Research and Innovation priority themes:*

- 1. Maintaining Ecosystem Sustainability;*
- 2. Developing safe water systems for the citizens;*
- 3. Promoting competitiveness in the water industry;*
- 4. Implementing a water-wise bio-based economy; and*
- 5. Closing the water cycle gap.*
- 6. The document can be downloaded from the Water JPI website following this [link](#).*



### TOWARDS PARTNERSHIP & COMPLEMENTARITIES WITH



The Water JPI is making progress in establishing a sustainable partnership with Horizon 2020. A document is being prepared to outline the Water JPI position on a natural partnership with Horizon 2020. Particular attention will be paid to the research and innovation priorities identified in the SRIA and to their relation with the Specific Programme of Horizon 2020. Since January 2013, delegates from the Water JPI are holding meetings with the European Commission to explore possibilities for cooperation.

Discussions focus on cooperation on specific activities and exchanging views on priorities and lines of action. Meetings are facilitating progress in the position document at a time when the European Commission is approaching the launching of Horizon 2020... only six months to go!

## THE FIRST STEPS OF THE AUTUMN PILOT CALL

Following discussions at the Governing Board meeting on 14 May, the Water JPI Pilot Call for proposals on “Emerging Pollutants” will be launched by a large number of Water JPI Partner Countries. Consensus was reached on the topic and the successful mobilization of large funds in support of this future call are very significant and positive achievements.

The Academy of Finland team is implementing this important task, in coordination with Water JPI Partners and with the future Call Steering Committee. Stay tuned for more information on this call in the form of a call pre-announcement.



*The Thames with the Shard London Bridge by Renzo Piano*

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WATER ASSETS ACCOUNTS

According to the 2012 Water Blueprint EC Communication, the European Environmental Agency has recently published a [report](#) titled “Results and lessons from implementing the water assets accounts” in order to usefully address the balance between resource and uses. Water accounting is a combination of methodology and exploitation of heterogeneous data sets.

### RESTORATION AND PROTECTION OF WETLANDS

A report on the economics of ecosystem and biodiversity for water and wetlands urges a major shift in our attitudes to wetlands, to recognize their value in delivering raw materials and food, essential for life, crucial for maintaining people’s livelihoods and for the sustainability of the world’s economies. This [publication](#) reinforces the message that restoration and protection of wetlands is vital to address today’s most pressing challenges of water and food security, climate change and poverty.

### DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR IWRM

The Global Water Partnership with the UN Environment Programme published a technical [report](#) focused on “*The role of Decision Support Systems (DSS) and Models in Integrated River Basin Management (IWRM)*”. The paper highlights that DSSs and Models are tools that can be used by practitioners to make sound, evidence-based decisions in implementing the integrated management of river basins.

## WATER JPI ON CIÊNCIA HOJE

The last month, the major Portuguese magazine, *Ciência Hoje* interviewed the JPI coordinator, Enrique Playán, who explained the initiative with a special focus on the newly published Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda. The full interview in Portuguese is available under this [link](#).

You can also follow the interview in English (courtesy of *Ciência Hoje*), published in our [web page](#)

**CiênciaHoje**<sup>®</sup>  
Sexta-feira, 07 de Junho de 2013

## GROWTH OF LONG-TERM SPACE-BASED PRECIPITATION DATASETS

There are climate changes modifying the global and local precipitation regimes inducing an increase of extremes on one side and, desertification at the Tropics on the other? What is going on? The answer is very complex and we have not enough data to make it loud and clear. Key data which it can help are precipitation measurements from space, since they possess the right space/time resolution and adequate coverage over the whole globe, oceans and remote areas is included.

A recent paper appeared on the March issue of the [Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society](#), reviewing the status of the application of satellite precipitation estimation. The authors conclude that, as new datasets become available with the launch of new satellites, data on intensity and distribution of precipitation make it possible for new scientific discoveries on hydrological, climatic and atmospheric chemical composition issues.

Major applications include flood and landslide prediction, diagnosis of numerical weather forecast and climate models, measurement of the rainfall potential of tropical systems (hurricanes, monsoons), aerosol load monitoring, crop yield planning in developing countries, pests and diseases control (malaria, locusts,...) and much more.

[The International Precipitation Working Group](#) coordinates the precipitation retrieval activities from space ensuring that the global coverage and long term observations are made available for all water-related applications. Europe is very active in this respect with [EUMETSAT's Satellite Application Facility on Support to Operational Hydrology and Water Management](#) and by participating to the [Global Precipitation Measurement](#) mission to be launched in 2014.

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Actual constellation of satellites for precipitation measurements (courtesy of [NASA-GPM](#))

### EIP WATER ACTION GROUPS SELECTED

Only the nine best proposals were accepted as [Action Groups](#) of the European Innovation Partnership on water.

The second call for other EIP Action Groups will be published in November 2013.



### WATER JPI IS ON THE SOCIAL MEDIA!

The Water JPI has launched its YouTube Channel, its Twitter [@waterjpi](#) and its [Water JPI Facebook account](#).

**You** **Tube** **Follow** **facebook**

Since the beginning of June, the three channels are fully operative and looking forward to spread the news and activities of Water JPI and its national partners.

## OPPORTUNITIES



### FUNDS FROM THE EUROPE INNOVA INITIATIVE

This call for proposals invites applicants to develop and implement strategic roadmaps of demand-side policy measures with the objective to increase the market uptake of innovations in any market or sector. Demand-side policies are sets of public measures which could support the improvement of conditions for the uptake of innovations or which improve the articulation of demand in order to spur innovations and allow their diffusion [here](#).

### CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Directorate General [Environment](#) has published a call to provide the Commission with a list of pre-selected candidates who could be awarded with contracts for activities related to the policy areas of this DG. This call for Expressions of Interest is run jointly with the DG Climate Action and will close on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

### COST OPEN CALL

An invitation has been published for research networks to submit proposals for new COST actions. The programme supports only the costs of networking activities such as meetings, publications and dissemination activities. The call is open till 27 September 2013. More details [here](#)

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NEWSLETTER



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CONFERENCE ON WATER-FOOD-ENERGY

The seventh biennial conference of the European Society for Environmental History will be held in Munich, Germany, from 20-24 August 2013 on the "Water-Food-Energy" Nexus. More information is available [here](#).

### THE 16<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL RIVERSYMPIOSIUM

This event is organized in Brisbane, Australia, from 23-26 September 2013 and sponsored by the Australian Government and many public and private bodies located on that continent. The programme includes keynote speakers, a range of convening partner sessions and local, regional and global presentations on rivers and freshwater systems. For details see [here](#).



### THE 2013 BUDAPEST WATER SUMMIT

This relevant event aims to contribute to the elaboration of the water-related sustainable development goals and provide concrete guidance on the most pressing water issues with a view to defining the priorities of global development policy post 2015.

The [summit](#), which forms part of the events of the UN International Year of Water Cooperation led by UNESCO, will take place from 8-11 October. This relevant event aims to contribute

to the elaboration of the water-related sustainable development goals and provide concrete guidance on the most pressing water issues with a view to defining the priorities of global development policy post 2015. The [summit](#), which forms part of the events of the UN International Year of Water Cooperation led by UNESCO, will take place from 8-11 October.



### EVENT ON WATER EFFICIENCY

The 7<sup>th</sup> IWA specialist [conference](#) on efficient use and management of water will be held in Paris next 22-25 October. This conference organized with the cooperation of the Scientific and Technical Association for Water and Environment (ASTEE) of France will present the experiences and accomplishments of recognized experts in different countries in improving water use efficiency and dealing with the challenges of drought and pollution.



THE PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE [waterjpi](#) WEBPAGE

