

A close-up photograph of numerous water droplets of various sizes on a dark, reflective surface, creating a textured, shimmering effect.

PROGRESS ON WATER JPI

14 MARCH 2018, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, 6TH WATER JPI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The Advisory Boards' meeting held in Stockholm in March was the last one with the current boards

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A close-up photograph of several clear water droplets resting on the edge of a vibrant green leaf, set against a blurred red background.

DROPLETS

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

During the 8th World Water Forum the Ministerial Declaration entitled "Urgent call for decisive action on the water" was approved

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A photograph of parched, cracked brown soil, illustrating the theme of water scarcity and drought.

OPPORTUNITIES

9-13 JULY 2018 SUMMER COURSE MICROPOLLUTANT MANAGEMENT

A specialized 5-day course dedicated to "Micropollutant Management in the Urban Water Cycle"

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A photograph of several colorful sticky notes (yellow, blue, pink, and light green) scattered on a light grey surface.

EVENTS

15 MAY 2018, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, PIANO EVENT

PIANO is a H2020 strategic cooperation partnership for water research and innovation between Europe and China

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PROGRESS ON WATER JPI

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14 MARCH 2018 STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, 6TH WATER JPI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The Advisory Boards' meeting held in Stockholm in March was the last one with the current boards before the partial renewal in September 2018. The workshop was very successful and generated good exchanges for moving forward on the Water JPI role in water-related Research Infrastructures and Observatories. The boards also exchanged on the procedures for the Water JPI [Vison Document](#) revision and [SRIA](#) update to be launched in the upcoming months. At a time when the European Commission has kick started reflections on the content of the next Framework Programme, and especially on possible missions, the Scientific and Technological Board also provided some ideas on relevant water-related hot topics for the future. The main outcomes of this meeting will be presented and discussed during the Water JPI Governing Board meeting in Cyprus on 9 May 2018.

15 MARCH 2018 STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, LAUNCH OF THE WATER KNOWLEDGE HUB ON EMERGING POLLUTANTS

The first workshop gathering experts selected to take part in [Water JPI Knowledge Hub](#) on “Emerging pollutants” ([SRIA Theme 2](#)) and keynote speakers was held on 15 March 2018. As “seed group”, about twenty researchers from ten countries joined the workshop, with the aim to provide clarification on the processes

involved and to progress in the set-up of the Water JPI Knowledge Hub on emerging pollutants. A second workshop with the selected experts will take place on 5 June 2018 in Helsinki, back-to-back with the [2018 Water JPI conference](#) on “Emerging pollutants in freshwater ecosystems”.



8 MAY 2018 LARNACA, CYPRUS

The purpose of the [mid-term review meeting](#) is to present the current development of the projects and provide the opportunity to the project coordinators and the follow-up group members to exchange ideas and feedback. The discussions/networking after each session of project presentations will intend to foster coordination and future collaboration among all the projects. The identification of common objectives and methodologies are expected to result in more ambitious approaches and more effective data exchange.

All participants are kindly requested to register through the on-line [registration form](#) as soon as possible and no later than the 21st of April 2018. The Meeting will take place back to back with the Water JPI Governing Board Meeting to be held on the 9th of May 2018.

4-5 JUNE 2018 HELSINKI, FINLAND, WATER JPI PILOT CALL FINAL EVALUATION MEETING & “EMERGING POLLUTANTS” POLICY BRIEF WORKSHOP

The Water JPI Pilot Call Final Evaluation meeting & “Emerging Pollutants” policy brief workshop are restricted to Water JPI partners. Please follow the online registration [link](#). These meetings are planned back-to-back with the [second Water JPI Conference](#) on 6-7 June 2018. You can find the programme of this public and free event, as well as practical information to proceed with your travel arrangements, on the [Water JPI 2018 conference webpage](#). Note that registration for the conference is open until end of April. To confirm your participation, please fill-in the [Water JPI 2018 Conference registration form](#).

6-7 JUNE HELSINKI, FINLAND, THE PHOTO COMPETITION FOR THE 2ND WATER JPI CONFERENCE

Join us and take part in the Water challenges for a changing world Photo Competition “Take a picture of your research!!”

The Water Joint Programming Initiative has launched a Photo Competition with the aim to communicate through an outright language the scientific topics of the Water JPI and the knowledge and results produced within the research developed. The competition is open to all and the research community is invited to submit photographs by 15 May 2018 illustrating the Water JPI Strategic Research & Innovation

Agenda thematic areas:

- [improving ecosystem sustainability and human well-being](#);
- [developing safe water systems for citizens](#);
- [promoting competitiveness in the water Industry](#);
- [implementing a water-wise bio-based economy](#);
- [closing the water cycle gap - improving sustainable water resource management](#).

The submitted photos will be on show during the 2018 Water JPI Conference to be held on 6-7 June 2018 in Helsinki, Finland, where the top 3 photos will be awarded on 6 June 2018 during the poster session. [More information and Terms & Conditions](#).

WATER JPI PARTICIPATION IN THE 8TH WORLD WATER FORUM

The Water JPI has been entrusted with the co-organisation of three thematic sessions and a side event during the [8th World Water Forum](#), Brasilia, Brazil 18-23 March 2018, which have been discussing the role of science in solving global water challenges.

The first special session, among the most followed throughout the Forum, focused on the political commitment concerning the key role and contribution of science to solve both present and future global water challenges. Representatives from European Union, Brazil, Iran, Australia, South Africa, USA and international institutions ([FAO](#) and [OECD](#)) exchanged on how to bring water management scientific knowledge and advances closer to public policies formulation and decision-making, in particular for being able to achieve in due time your policy objectives. The importance of the partnership between the European Union and Brazil in research and

development of innovative solutions to face the challenges of water management and use was highlighted during the International Symposium “the role of science, technology and innovation in global water challenges”, which gathered 110 participants on Tuesday 20 March, at the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications ([MCTIC](#)). This side event was organized by EU-Brazil Sector Dialogues in partnership with MCTIC, DG Research and Innovation/European Commission and the Water JPI. The symposium took place as a side event to the 8th World Water Forum and is part of a project supported by the sector dialogues support facility to promote political debate on water challenges and their relationship to other major challenges, such as health and well-being, sanitation, sustainable cities, climate change and socio-economic development. European and Brazilian scientists exchanged on Developments on sanitation and emerging pollutants, Water crisis and Water management in cities.

Finally, the third session proposed a discussion on stable and sustained funding to support research in the area of sanitation and water resources in order to improve technologies, practices, methodologies, processes and procedures, with the following objectives:

- to discuss mechanisms, processes and solutions for guarantee the continuous financing of actions aimed at the development of scientific research, technologies and synthesis of knowledge in the area of water resources;
- to propose ways to strengthen and improve human resources training and capacity building initiatives;
- to define strategies for communicating and disseminating ideas and solutions to problems related to availability and water quality in an efficient manner, adaptable to different local realities.

ONLINE SURVEY DATA COLLECTION OF THE WATER JPI NEWSLETTER: CLOSED COLLECTION

On 9 March 2018 the E-Newsletter online survey is over. The consultation was addressed to analyse the satisfaction level and providing some suggestions of Water JPI Newsletter readers on this communication tool.

The total number of accesses to the platform amounted to 289 among which 56 respondents have completed the questionnaires. Among the respondents there is a high presence of regular readers and a good overall satisfaction can be noted with a high percentage that considers somewhat relevant the information provided in the Newsletter. Specific questions of the online survey covered the satisfaction level of the four sections of the e-Newsletter is consists: “Progress on Water JPI”, “Droplets”, “Opportunities” and “Events”. For “Progress on Water JPI” the highest satisfaction rate is assigned, followed by “Droplets”, Opportunities and “Events” sections.

The high level of satisfaction of readers is confirmed by the large percentage of them that are available to forwarding the e-Newsletter to others (63%). The survey also included two “open questions”: the first one concerned the possibility to submit by readers information or articles to publish in the e-Newsletter. Interesting to know that many respondents would be available to share information of interest for Water JPI community as writers and not only as readers. This is an important aspect in order to increase the useful networks in the water research field.

The last one considerations are on the suggestions to improve the current e-Newsletter.

Some suggestions are: the possibility to publish more information about the projects; to include a page in which Institutes, Agencies and SMEs can exchange information on their activities in the Water JPI issues; to create a section to publish projects results from research groups as EC Water groups; to add a link to some interesting reading to learn and as scientific articles and to create a specific section on job opportunities.

Thank you to the readers that have take part to the survey and for the suggestions provided. For forwarding articles, notifications of international/national events, summary of actions, projects results or any news estimated relevant for the Water JPI community use: enews@waterjpi.it. The e-Newsletter Water JPI Editorial Staff will considerate the possibility to publish them.



DROPLETS

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION “URGENT CALL FOR DECISIVE ACTION ON WATER”

During the [8th World Water Forum](#), the Ministerial Declaration entitled “[Urgent call for decisive action on the water](#)” was approved during the session at Ulysses Guimarães Convention Center in Brasília. The document is the result of discussions between Ministers and heads of delegations from more than 100 countries. The Declaration recognizes that all countries need to take urgent action to address the challenges related to water and sanitation, establishing some actions considered top priorities. The document also points out that the partnerships formed during the 8th Forum are essential to implement the Declaration.

WATER IS LIFE, LET’S PROTECT IT!

The environmental health of Europe’s inland fresh water bodies and coastal marine areas are assessed by the EEA through regular reports and indicators (water and marine) which helps to underpin the European Union’s Water Framework Directive. Recently published reports also include the annual bathing water quality report. They also released in March 2018 a video [WATER IS LIFE, LET’S PROTECT IT!](#) The EEA will later this year publish the ‘State of Europe’s Water’ report, which will give an updated health check on the environmental pressures affecting the quality of Europe’s groundwater, rivers, lakes and other water bodies.

EEA URBAN WASTE WATER TREATMENT MAP

The [urban waste water treatment map](#), from European Environmental Agency, shows the most recent information on the implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive ([UWWTD](#)) in the EU-28 countries plus Switzerland. It is based on data from 2014 or 2015, which were reported by these countries in 2016.

SHARING WATER KNOWLEDGE & INFORMATION: ITALY FOR WASAG 2ND ANNOUNCEMENT

Water scarcity is one of the leading challenges of the twenty-first century. To advance this need, the FAO Director-General, officially launched in Rome in April 2017 the Global Framework for Action to Cope with Water Scarcity in Agriculture in the Context of Climate Change. [WASAG](#) aims at collaboration between partners for the development and implementation of policies and programs for the sustainable use of water in the agricultural sectors and aims to identify priority actions for the adaptation of agriculture to climate change. In this way, the global framework aims to help countries, communities and businesses to meet their needs for increasing food production in the face of climate change, while preserving the ecosystems and services they provide. The [meeting](#) was held on 28 March 2018 at Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali in Rome.

INBO NEW WEBSITE

The International Network of Basin Organizations ([INBO](#)) was founded in 1994 to help in the establishment and strengthening of basin organizations around the world, based on the exchange of experiences among its members. It currently has 192 member-organizations or observers in 88 countries, including managers of coastal, national or transboundary basins of rivers, lakes or aquifers.

Basin management is needed to cope with the numerous pressures on freshwater resources, which are increasing in all countries and on all continents, further aggravated by the effect of climate change. INBO website is a showcase of basin management in the world: in addition to the statutory information of the network, its actions and those of its members, it informs about the activity of international events on water and climate and their conclusions, incentive projects for new approaches and interesting publications on the topic, especially on all issues of institutional organization.

2018 STOCKHOLM WATER PRIZE

Professors Bruce Rittmann and Mark van Loosdrecht are named the [2018 Stockholm Water Prize](#) laureates for revolutionizing water and wastewater treatment. By revolutionizing microbiological-based technologies in water and wastewater treatment, Professors Mark van Loosdrecht and Bruce Rittmann have demonstrated the possibilities to remove harmful contaminants from water, cut wastewater treatment costs, reduce energy consumption, and even recover chemicals and nutrients for recycling. Their pioneering research and innovations have led to a new generation of energy-efficient water treatment processes that can effectively extract nutrients and other chemicals - both valuable and harmful - from wastewater.

OPPORTUNITIES

9-13 JULY 2018 SUMMER COURSE “MICROPOLLUTANT MANAGEMENT IN THE URBAN WATER CYCLE”

A specialized 5-day [course](#) dedicated to “Micropollutant Management in the Urban Water Cycle”, co-organized by IRSTEA and INRA, will take place in Lyon-Villeurbanne, France. Students will be able to (i) identify the bottlenecks in the micropollutant management and where future researches are needed and (ii) propose emerging technological solutions knowing advantage/disadvantage and select the best option according to their own context. Applications are open! Deadline for submission of [application](#): 15 May 2018.

H2020 MARIE SKLODOWSKA CURIE INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS 2018 EFFICIENT 2019

Are you a (post)doctoral researcher thinking about your next career move? The Marie Skłodowska-Curie ([MSCA](#)) Individual Fellowships may be just right for you. These fellowships fund researchers looking to enhance their career development and prospects by working abroad. There are two types of Individual Fellowships: EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIPS and GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS. These trans-national fellowships are awarded to the best or most promising researchers (all nationalities, subject to mobility rule). Dead line to submit [application](#): 12 September 2018.



EVENTS

15 MAY 2018, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, STRENGTHENING CHINA EUROPE WATER INNOVATION COOPERATION

[PIANO](#) is a H2020 strategic cooperation partnership for water research and innovation between Europe and China to create social and economic cooperation opportunities in the European and Chinese water sectors. Among its objectives are the strengthening of the existing network of the China Europe Water Platform ([CEWP](#)), identification of European technological water innovations that have a potential for implementation in China, identification of drivers and barriers related to implementation and replication of water innovations in China, and promotion of knowledge exchange. Further, a strategic research and innovation agenda ([SRIA](#)) for China Europe water cooperation has been elaborated.

The objective of this event is to present the project results and recommendations, gain feedback and explore options and synergies to utilize the project results through and beyond the work of the CEWP and the other international water-related networks and initiatives.

18-19 MAY 2018, NICOSIA, CYPRUS, CLIMATE CHANGE 2018

The international [conference](#) “Climate change in the Mediterranean and the Middle East: challenges and solutions”, will address the scientific basis of climate change in the region, its various impacts and challenges, mitigation/ adaptation strategies, policy challenges and

governance. The conference will be preceded by two days of scientific workshops (16-17 May), examining in detail issues related to air pollution and climate change, and interconnections with energy and agriculture in the region in view of the ongoing challenges posed by climate change. The overall goal of the summit-conference would be to launch a “Nicosia Declaration” regarding the scientific basis of climate change in the region, including the high-level propositions for mitigation/ adaptation strategies. Thematic areas are: mitigation & adaptation solutions; climate change & pollution: weather extremes, health impacts, migration & security; energy, water & sustainability

22-23 MAY 2018, WASHINGTON, D.C. THE INNOVATING TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE FOOD-ENERGY-WATER-NEXUS (FEW)

The 2-day invited conference will draw upon faculty expertise from world leading educational programs and education research grounded in the [FEW-Nexus](#). Conference participants will have opportunities to share their research and engage with colleagues from a diverse array of disciplinary backgrounds to articulate and shape discourse around a systemic approach to FEW-Nexus education and education research. The conference will result in the development of a framework for National Collaborative for Food, Energy, & Water Education (NC-FEW) and lay the foundations for a transdisciplinary community of FEW-Nexus education scholars. Please contact [Cory Forbes](#) for more information.



8-10 JULY 2018, MARINA BAY SANDS, SINGAPORE, SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL WATER WEEK, WATER LEADERS SUMMIT

The Water Leaders Summit ([WLS](#)) presents an exclusive high-level gathering of global water industry leaders for exchanges with government regulators and policy think-tanks to discuss solutions to pressing water issues.

WLS 2018 will focus on the urgent question of how water management should evolve as cities develop. This gathering of high officials, industry captains and opinion makers will offer abundant opportunities to confer on key areas, such as closing the water-energy-waste loop, water reuse, and smart water technologies

Delegates can also expect to interact with mayors of leading international cities who are attending the World Cities Summit and CleanEnviro Summit Singapore, both held alongside Singapore International Water Week ([SIWW](#)) 2018.

16-21 SEPTEMBER 2018 TOKYO, JAPAN, IWA WORLD WATER CONGRESS & EXHIBITION 2018

The [World Water Congress & Exhibition](#) organized by the International Water Association ([IWA](#)) is a global event for water professionals covering the full water cycle.

The congress brings over 5,500 water, environment and related professionals from more than 100 countries and offers new insights into how pioneering science, technological innovation and leading practices shape the major transformation in water management that is

underway. All information about registration [here](#).

13-16 JANUARY 2019 MANILA, PHILIPPINES, IWA EFFICIENT 2019: WATER EFFICIENCY, DRIVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The International Water Association (IWA) Specialist Group for Efficient Urban Water Management will bring the 10th biennial IWA Efficient Conference to Manila, Philippines on 13-16 January 2019.

The [conference](#) will gather urban water and wastewater professionals to reflect on shared challenges and promote efficient solutions. A simultaneous exhibition will feature some of the most innovative technologies from around the world.

Efficient 2019 is hosted by two of the leading urban water companies in the Philippines: Metro Pacific Water and Maynilad Water Services. Dead line for [abstract submission](#) is 30 April 2018.