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## Editorial

*Water is essential to all living organisms. For instance, it makes up 73 per cent of the human heart and brain and 83 per cent of our lungs. And acting like the bloodstream of our planet, it provides drinking water for our refreshment and opportunities for recreation such as bathing, rafting and swimming. Now it is summer, we wish you a pleasant holiday. If you are lucky, you will be surrounded by precious water like this:*



The source Syri i Kaltër in Albania

### FUTURE GLOBAL WATER CRISIS

Anders Berntell, Executive Director of the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) questions the approach of business leaders to the looming water crisis in the summer edition of SIWI's in-house magazine *The New Economy*.

According to Berntell there is much talk of a low carbon economy but little mention of access to water, even though by 2025 three billion people might live in countries experiencing water stress. He feels that there's an urgent need to manage water resources more energy-efficiently, raise awareness of the impact of water use and prioritise investment to provide drinking water and sanitation.

To read the full text of this article, please click [here](#).

## WATER PRODUCTIVITY VIDEO

The first meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group took place in Lisbon last month (June). Promoted by the MED SPRING (Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research and Innovation Gateway) project and financed by the 7<sup>th</sup> FP, it involved 50 experts from 28 partnership organisations based in the Mediterranean. Three main societal challenges were discussed: water resources, food quality and security, and energy. The former Director General of the International Water Management Institute discussed the concept of water productivity. . You can view a video of his discussion [here](#).

## SECOND CALL FOR JPI URBAN EUROPE PROJECT PROPOSALS

The Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe invites researchers, practitioners, innovators and other stakeholders to propose international research and innovation projects to develop European urban areas. A total of approximately €15 million will be provided by national funding agencies from Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom. The call for pre-proposals is open from 18 June to 18 September 2013 (12.00 noon CET). In November applicants will be invited to enter the second stage of the procedure and the call for full proposals will close on the 21 January 2014 (12:00 noon CET). For further information, please consult the website <http://www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu/>

## KULTURisk WORKSHOP

The FP 7<sup>th</sup> project KULTURisk aims to develop a culture of risk prevention by evaluating the benefits of different risk prevention initiatives using different types of water-related catastrophes. These include river inundations, urban flash floods, storm surges, rainfall triggered debris flows and landslides.

The third project workshop entitled "*Benefits of disaster prevention measures: consolidating and widening an innovative risk assessment methodology*" will be held in Venice on 19-20 September 2013. For details, please click [here](#)



Announced vacant positions or calls for expression of interest at [European Research Council](#)

## CALL FOR EXPERTS ON WATER QUALITY

The World Health Organization is seeking experts to provide input into guidelines revision, evidence review and development of derivative documents for the WHO guidelines on drinking water, waste water and recreational water. Click [here](#) for details.

## CALL FOR PAPERS FOR IAHR CONGRESS

The third European congress of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research will be held in Porto (Portugal) from 14-16 April 2014. Abstracts for papers based on the congress' themes and related topics must be received by 31 July 2013. For more information, please click [here](#).



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