

## **EDITORIAL**

Every month this Newsletter tries to provide the audience with the latest news on the Water JPI. We also try to give readers insight on different aspects of water research and innovation. In this edition, we have chosen to disseminate four videos produced by Euronews. We have selected innovations happening outside Europe, and in very different locations. It will take a few minutes to watch all the videos. However, you will find in them different approaches to site-specific versions of well-known problems. Innovations target processes and policies for integrated solutions.



## **UPCOMING JPI MEETINGS**

The second meeting of the Water JPI Governing Board will take place in Dublin on May 16. The meeting will decide on the enlargement of the Advisory Boards (the Scientific and Technological Board and the Stakeholders Advisory Group). A firm position on the European Innovation Partnership on Water will be adopted. A strategic planning for the following year will be approved. The meeting will be held in coincidence with the IWA congress.

**Euro-Mediterranean**  
CONFERENCE 2012  
on Research and Innovation

## **EURO-MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE**

The 2012 [Euro-Mediterranean Conference](#) on Research and Innovation was held in Barcelona in 2 and 3 April 2012. It gathered a large number of Policy Makers, Researchers, and Research and Innovation administrators from Europe and the Mediterranean region. The event counted on the presence of Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science. One of the sessions of this event was dedicated to water availability and management. The session [outcome](#) identified the following priorities for action:

- Adopting the Mediterranean Water Strategy and Action Plan which will provide the financial and instrument framework for the future;
- Partnerships to create conditions for competitive research in water use efficiency, use of non-conventional waters, risk management; and
- Regional joint funding for trans-basin cooperation and regional water innovation programme.



Two [materials](#) distributed at the conference are particularly interesting about current RTD cooperation in these regions:

- Investing in European success: Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation in Research and Innovation.
- International cooperation with Mediterranean Partner Countries - FP7 project synopses.

## **SUSCHEM STAKEHOLDERS EVENT**

[SUSCHEM](#), the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry, held its Stakeholders Event last April 17 and 18 in Brussels. The event counted on a session on Water Management. The Water JPI was present in that session. Miguel Angel Gilarranz presented the Water JPI facts, aims and accomplishments. His presentation was sided by presentations about current developments in the European Commission on the European Innovation Partnership on Water, the Framework Programme, the Technology Platforms and the Joint Programming process. Experts from Industry and Academia further discussed the links between research and development in Chemistry and progress in water management and innovation.



## **EURONEWS: WATER IN THE WORLD**

TV channel Euronews periodically targets water research and innovation outside Europe. In this section, three videos are presented covering four very different aspects:

- [A different tea bag](#). South African researchers have developed a low-cost nanotechnology-based tea bag filter that may save thousands of lives in areas without proper water supply and sanitation facilities.
- [Energy and water for crops](#). Abundant solar resources in Egypt are combined with German new solar technologies to energize agricultural production areas.
- [New look at purification](#). The key to this USA innovation also targeting developing countries is again Nanotechnology.

Cotton is the substrate for this innovative solution requiring low energy input.

- [Tomorrow's city](#). This video presents the specific traits of the urban water cycle in Singapore. Urban water management is discussed from the point of the challenges faced by this dense city.

## **UPCOMING EXTERNAL EVENTS**

### **Green Week 2012**

This annual [event](#) organized by [DG Environment](#) of the European Commission will be organized on May 22-25 in Brussels. This year's theme is water. About forty sessions will be devoted to exchanges of experience and best practice.



### **World Congress on Water, Climate and Energy**

This [IWA congress](#) will be held in Dublin on May 13-18. Don't miss the opportunity of addressing these interlinked challenges with a view on sustainability.

### **Water Innovation Europe**

[WssTP](#) and [ACQUEAU](#) are organizing this [event](#) in Brussels, on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012. The event will count on the presence of Environment Commissioner Janez Potočnik and Member of European Parliament Richard Seeber. High-level representatives from OECD, leading European water companies and research institutes. Miguel Ángel Gilarranz will present the views of the Water JPI on the relationship between the production of knowledge and innovation in the water sector. The event will also present the IWA [Project Innovation Awards](#).



### **LINKS TO THE PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS**

[First season](#) (issues #1-9), [#10](#), [#11](#), [#12](#), [#13](#), [#14](#), [#15](#) and [#16](#). More info at our [public repository](#)!