



**Water Works 2016–2020 in Support of the Water JPI  
ERA-NET Cofund Action**



**WATER-3-2015: Stepping up EU research and  
innovation cooperation in the water area**

T6.1

Common Vision and Adapting the Strategies of the Water and  
FACCE JPIs

Proceedings, Workshop, 26 September 2019, Paris, France  
(WP6)

November 2019

<b>OUTPUT SUMMARY</b>	
<b>Project Information</b>	
Project Title:	Water Works 2016–2020 in Support of the Water JPI (WaterWorks2015) – Sustainable water use in agriculture to increase water use efficiency and reduce soil and water pollution
Project Acronym:	WaterWorks2015
Call Identifier:	WATER-3-2015: Stepping up EU research and innovation cooperation in the water area
Contract Number:	689271
Start Date:	01/01/2016
End Date:	31/12/2020
Website Address:	<a href="http://www.waterjpi.eu/">http://www.waterjpi.eu/</a>
Coordinator:	Maurice HERAL
Management Team:	Dominique DARMENDRAIL, Simon COULET, Armelle MONTROSE, Richard TAVARES
E-mail:	WW2015secretariat@agencerecherche.fr
Telephone Number:	+33 1 73 54 81 55/+33 1 78 09 80 37
Work Package:	WP6
WP Leader:	ANR
Nature:	Report
Dissemination:	External
Editor(s):	Vera Steinberg (BLE)
E-Mail(s):	Vera.steinberg@ble.de
Telephone Number:	0049 228 6845 3653
Date of Delivery:	November 2019

## Disclaimer

This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

## Table of Contents

List of Abbreviations .....	1
Executive Summary .....	2
1. Introduction .....	2
Joint Programming Initiatives .....	2
Common Vision Workshop 2 under WaterWorks2015 .....	3
2. Methodology .....	3
Workshop Attendees .....	4
Workshop Programme.....	4
Workshop Material.....	4
3. Workshop Proceedings.....	5
Plenary Session .....	5
Session 1: How to Integrate SDGs and Climate Change across Both Strategies (SRIA/SRA) .....	7
Session 2: Identify Synergies between the FACCE JPI and the Water JPI after the End of WaterWorks2015 .....	8
Session 3: Policy Impact – How to Increase the Impact of Both SRIA/SRA .....	9
Session 4: How to Measure the Impact of Both Strategies (Identify Joint SMART Objectives and Indicators).....	10
Closing of the Workshop and the Next Steps .....	11
Key Findings: Summary .....	11
Annex 1: Agenda .....	13

## List of Abbreviations

ANR	Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France
BLE	Federal Office for Agriculture and Food, Germany
EC	European Commission
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland
EU	European Union
FACCE	Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change
FPO	Funding partner organisation
INRA	Institut national de la recherche agronomique, France
JPI	Joint Programming Initiative
OPERA	Operationalizing the increase of water user efficiency and resilience in irrigation
PSF	Policy Support Facility
R&I	Research and innovation
RDI	Research, development and innovation
SAB	Scientific Advisory Board
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SMART	"Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Reasonable, Time Bound"
SRA	Strategic Research Agenda
SRIA	Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda
StAB	Stakeholder Advisory Board
WP	Work Package

## Executive Summary

The ERA-NET Cofund WaterWorks2015 responds to the Horizon 2020 (H2020) Societal Challenge 5 call topic Water-3-2015: “Stepping up EU research and innovation cooperation in the water area”. It is a collaboration between the Water Joint Programming Initiative (JPI), “Water Challenges for a Changing World”, and the FACCE JPI, “Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change”. Achieving “sustainable water use in agriculture, to increase water use efficiency and reduce soil and water pollution”, is at the intersection of the two JPIs, contributing to the implementation of their respective Strategic Research (and Innovation) Agendas.

This ERA-NET Cofund constitutes another step towards the planning and implementation of the Water JPI activities and aims to further reduce the fragmentation and dispersion of European Union (EU) water-related research and innovation activities and support EU policies and initiatives in the field of water.

One of the joint activities implemented in the framework of the project is dealing with the “Common Vision and adapting the strategies of the Water and FACCE JPIs”. This report contains the proceedings of the second workshop with the Advisory Boards of the two JPIs, which took place in Paris on 26 September 2019.

A total of 27 experts from 21 organisations and 13 countries attended this workshop, which was the second in a series of two workshops designed to strengthen the linkages between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI after the completion of the ERA-NET Cofund and to identify the gaps and synergies of the respective Strategic Research (and Innovation) Agendas (SRIA/SRA).

## 1. Introduction

### Joint Programming Initiatives

The Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) are intergovernmental initiatives aimed at strengthening European leadership and competitiveness in research and innovation (R&I). In particular, the Water JPI responds to the grand challenge of “achieving sustainable water systems for a sustainable economy in Europe and abroad”, whereas the Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change (FACCE) JPI is dedicated to meeting the challenge of “ensuring food security and sustainable agriculture under climate change while protecting ecosystems and natural resources”. The Water and FACCE JPIs have been harmonising and mobilising national and regional R&I programmes to address these grand challenges. This joint effort has required a transnational and multidisciplinary approach to the economic, ecological, technological and societal challenges facing world water resources.

WaterWorks2015 responds to the Horizon 2020 (H2020) Societal Challenge 5 call topic Water-3-2015: “Stepping up EU research and innovation cooperation in the water area”. This ERA-NET Cofund builds on the joint efforts conducted until now in the planning and implementation of Water JPI activities, and aims at (1) a maximisation of the scarce human and financial resources, (2) a reduction of the fragmentation of research, (3) better synergy and coordination between national and European Union (EU) funding in the water-related research fields, (4) supporting EU policies and initiatives in the field of water and (5) developing international cooperation in water research.

WaterWorks2015 committed resources from 25 funding partner organisations (FPOs) from 22 countries to implement a joint call for proposals, with EU cofunding, on the topic, “Sustainable management of water resources in agriculture, forestry and freshwater aquaculture sectors”, which comprises the following challenges:

- increasing the efficiency and resilience of water uses;
- monitoring and reducing soil and water pollution; and
- integrating social and economic dimensions into the sustainable management and governance of water resources.

The aim of the 2016 Joint Call is to enable transnational, collaborative research, development and innovation (RDI) projects addressing questions relating to the water challenges faced by society. The FPOs particularly wish to (1) promote transdisciplinary research, (2) encourage proposals combining basic and applied approaches, (3) stimulate the mobility of researchers within the consortia, (4) enhance collaborative R&I during a project’s lifespan and beyond and (5) promote international cooperation in the water area.

Within Work Package (WP)6, “Additional activities on strategy”, Task 6.1 (T6.1) deals with the Common Vision and adapting the strategies of the Water and FACCE JPIs. The task is led by the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food, Germany (BLE).

In order to develop a framework and action plan to support the common vision, two workshops targeted at experts from both JPIs were organised:

- the first workshop on the Common Vision was held on 21 June 2017 in Bonn (Germany) and aimed to identify commonalities between and gaps in both JPIs; and
- the second workshop on the common vision was held on 26 September 2019 in Paris (France) and aimed to provide input for the update of the Strategic Research (and Innovation) Agendas (SRIA/SRA).

## Common Vision Workshop 2 under WaterWorks2015

This report contains the proceedings of the second workshop within WP6, T6.1, the Common Vision and adapting the strategies of the Water and FACCE JPIs. The workshop took place in Paris on the 26 September 2019. In total, 27 people, including experts and members of both the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI, participated in this workshop. The workshop provided an occasion for participants to discuss the status of updated visions, strategic agendas and implementation plans of both JPIs.

The objectives of this workshop were to:

- gather relevant experts from both JPIs to discuss the Common Vision;
- provide input for updating the SRIA/SRA and implementation plans;
- identify possible strategies to include identified knowledge gaps and RDI needs in the new SRIA/SRA; and
- provide an opportunity to investigate the continuity of joint actions (i.e. possible implementation tools) between both JPIs after the completion of the ERA-NET Cofund WaterWorks2015.

## 2. Methodology

The WaterWorks2015 workshop was organised by BLE, with the support of the WaterWorks2015 partners and FACCE partners, as well as the WaterWorks2015 and Water JPI Secretariats.

## Workshop Attendees

In total, 27 people, including experts and members of both the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI, participated. The external experts invited for this workshop were nominated by the WaterWorks2015 partners. Furthermore, the workshop was open to all WaterWorks2015 partners, as well as Water JPI and FACCE JPI partners and the respective Advisory Boards.

## Workshop Programme

The workshop included a plenary session in the morning and four sessions for group discussions in the afternoon. During the group discussions, the participants split up into two groups. Each participant discussed every topic, as groups changed every 30 minutes.

The plenary session included:

- welcoming words by members of both JPIs;
- a general introduction to both the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI objectives;
- the expected outcomes of the workshop, as well as a summary of the first workshop (June 2017);
- the state of the art of the update of both the Water JPI SRIA and the FACCE JPI SRA; and
- a presentation of the OPERA project (“Operationalizing the increase of water use efficiency and resilience in irrigation”), funded under the WaterWorks2015 Joint Call.

This was followed by the parallel sessions. Each session started with a short overview of the topic, followed by a 30-minute discussion.

The four sessions were as follows:

- Session 1: How to integrate SDGs and climate change across both strategies (SRIA/SRA) (*Environmental Protection Agency of Ireland; EPA*).
- Session 2: Identify synergies between the FACCE JPI and the Water JPI after the end of WaterWorks2015 (*Institut national de la recherche agronomique, France; INRA*).
- Session 3: Policy impact – how to increase the impact of both SRIA/SRA (*Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France; ANR*).
- Session 4: How to measure the impact of both strategies (identify joint SMART objectives and indicators) (*BLE*).

After the parallel sessions, each leader summarised the main outcomes of their respective session. The workshop ended with an overview of the key achievements of the day and organisational issues, presented by BLE.

The agenda is provided in Annex I. The presentation of the meeting can be downloaded here: [\[link to be added\]](#).

## Workshop Material

Prior to the workshop, the agenda and relevant information, such as links to both JPIs and the proceedings of the first 2017 workshop (<http://www.waterjpi.eu/resources/common-vision-workshops/2017-common-vision-workshop>), were circulated to the participants.

The master presentation was sent to participants after the workshop, together with these minutes.

### 3. Workshop Proceedings

#### Plenary Session

##### Welcome

The Water JPI representative (EPA) and the FACCE JPI representative (INRA) gave a few welcoming words and introduced each JPI to start the joint workshop.

##### Expectation of the meeting and summary of the first workshop

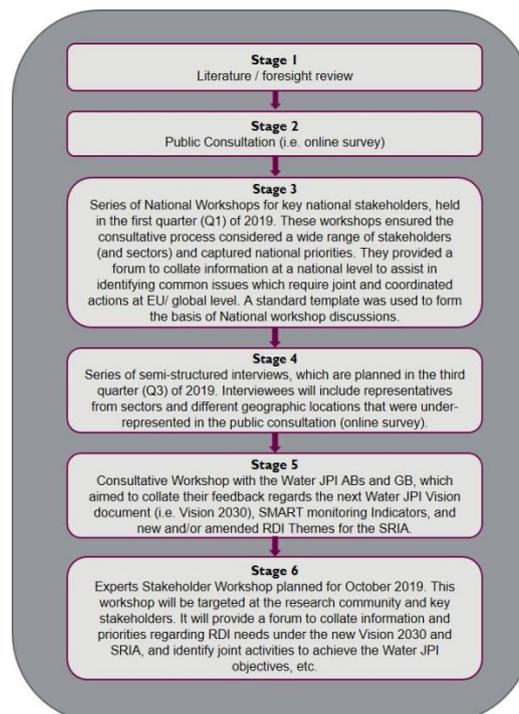
The chairperson of the meeting (BLE) briefly explained the expectations of the meeting, which included:

- strengthening the linkages between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI;
- identifying gaps and synergies between the Water JPI SRIA and the FACCE JPI SRA; and
- having an opportunity to investigate the continuity of joint actions (i.e. possible implementation tools) between both JPIs after the completion of the WaterWorks2015 ERA-NET Cofund.

This was followed by a presentation of a summary of the first workshop, which took place in June 2017 in Bonn, Germany. Detailed information can be found in the workshop minutes at <http://www.waterjpi.eu/resources/common-vision-workshops/2017-common-vision-workshop>.

##### Summary of the revision process: Water JPI SRIA

The EPA introduced the state of the art of the update of the Water JPI SRIA. The Water JPI is currently updating its Vision (Vision 2030) and its SRIA (SRIA 2025). The process is split in six stages:



Graph 1: Process of updating the Water JPI SRIA. Ab, Advisory Board; GB, Governing Board.

On 22 and 23 October 2019, an expert stakeholder workshop for updating the SRIA took place in Dublin. The outcomes of this second workshop on the Common Vision were presented during the workshop for updating the SRIA.

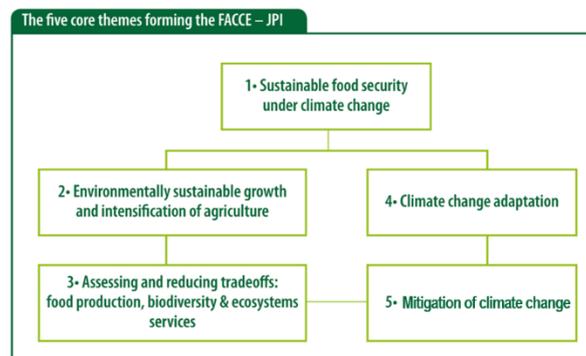
The new Vision title, “Together for a Water-secure World”, and the related mission, “Jointly enabling smart water solutions for our changing world”, were approved by the Advisory Boards and the Governing Board. New proposed themes for the revised Water JPI SRIA 2025 include nature/ecosystems, health, sustainable water management, water value and usage. Suggested key drivers for the new SRIA include big data, climate change and digitisation.

The following points were discussed:

- the need for a more holistic approach and to incorporate cross-cutting issues in the SRIA, e.g. climate change;
- the need for a connection at different levels (geographic, time);
- the need for greater interaction between the FACCE JPI and the Water JPI by identifying a common path, starting from their respective strategies to their implementation – the Water JPI to give inputs to the FACCE JPI and vice versa;
- the relevance of agroecology; and
- the need to include in cross-cutting issues the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a climate-neutral circular economy (which is crucial for water and agriculture) and the water–energy–food–ecosystems (WEFE) nexus.

### **State of the art: FACCE JPI SRA**

INRA introduced the state of the art of the update of the FACCE JPI SRA. In the revised edition of the SRA, which was introduced in 2016, there are five core themes:



*Graph 2: The five core themes of the FACCE JPI.*

Currently, the FACCE JPI, which is in a transition phase, is working on the update of the SRA. A preparatory group with representatives from the Governing Board, the Stakeholder Advisory Board (StAB), the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) and the Secretariat is developing the future SRA and has suggested new core themes: “Carbon neutrality in agricultural landscapes”, “Biodiverse and resilient farming systems”, “Diet- and resource-sensitive agricultural production systems as part of an integrated food systems approach” and “Interactions and trade-offs between food, land (energy), water and climate”.

The suggested overarching mission is “Climate-neutral, sustainable and resilient agricultural production systems to support food and nutrition security by 2050”. A joint meeting of the SAB and StAB in Brussels on 7 and 8 October 2019, followed by a Governing Board meeting in Berlin on 14 and 15 November 2019, should allow the new SRA to be formulated.

Some of the points raised during the discussion were as follows:

- Measures of the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) as a field of interest for research, i.e. develop tools to manage/assess the mandatory measures that have to be in place for farmers in the EU.
- The inclusion of health products in the FACCE JPI’s new core themes related to nutrient-sensitive agriculture and the identification of agriculture practices that have an influence on health.
- New suggested core themes will extend the activity range of the FACCE JPI.
- The need for human and environmental health, since human, crop, plant and animal health should be ideally addressed all together.
- The global perspective is important in food and agriculture (e.g. land grabbing, exports/imports) and should also be taken into account.
- Involvement of JPIs in policy and in a “Marshall Plan” for countries with scarce water resources.

### **Presentation: example of project OPERA from WaterWorks2015**

INRA presented the project OPERA as a best practice example of the two JPIs working together. The full project title is “Operationalizing the increase of water use efficiency and resilience in irrigation”. Eight partners from six countries worked together, with a total budget of €1236K; details of the project can be found in the workshop presentation or at <http://www.waterjpi.eu/joint-calls/joint-call-2016-waterworks-2015/opera>. Information on the project can also be found on the open access/open data platforms of the Water JPI.

The objectives of the OPERA project are to develop a better service for irrigation scheduling for farmers in Europe and South Africa. During the questions, the points discussed dealt mainly with the improvement of the co-design of research with farmers and service provision and accession.

In this project, the pilot tests are carried out in selected farms, but the experiments are limited as some farmers are reluctant to use the sensor technologies and are afraid to see their yield and income decreased. In addition, because of the different national regulations, many farmers fear losing their rights to use water. For example, in France, the selected farms are part of irrigation associations and do not always follow the recommendations because, if they use less water than planned, their water allocation can be decreased the following year.

One suggested solution was to create a platform for public/private partnerships with experimental farms, where different conditions and each issue encountered by farmers (pests, fertilisation, markets, etc.) can be assessed. The developed technologies and their real input would be demonstrated before testing in farms. This should prove to farmers the profitability of the provided services.

Furthermore, training and education of farmers on the utility of the technologies is essential for attracting farmers and increasing their need to use and their trust in existing and new technologies. Farmers need to understand the concepts and trust the results of the tools before deciding to use the sensor technology, even if, in some cases, money can be a limitation for upgrading farmers’ practices.

The last point raised was the need to help farmers to access the relevant data. Currently, this information is easily available through smartphones, but the data from several sensors (for water, fertilisers, weather, etc.) needs to be combined to really help farmers.

## **Session 1: How to Integrate SDGs and Climate Change across Both Strategies (SRIA/SRA)**

Moderator: EPA

The SDGs serve perfectly as a **link** between the two strategies, as they can be used as an intersectoral approach; thus, the SDGs create a mechanism to break silos and offer the option to work together, despite a different focus. The main target is to adapt agriculture with regard to climate change and more sustainable water usage. There is a need to consider both positive and negative feedback of climate change in terms of research. Climate change is a threat to natural resources and affects all areas. By putting it in the centre, adaptation and mitigation become possible if included in every initiative.

It is important to **consider all of the** SDGs (see Annex 2). SDGs 2, 12, 13 and 15 are highlighted for the FACCE JPI. It is also recommended to include SDG 3 (if more than just human health is being considered), SDG 7 (which can be linked with SDG 11), SDG 8 and SDG 17. For the Water JPI, it is strongly recommended to include SDG 9 (industrial water). Water is addressed in almost all of the SDGs, as water is such a broad topic in itself – one can find water in almost all of the goals. Here, the **targets and indicators** play an even bigger role. SDGs **8 and 17** could be used as a cross-cutting topic for both JPIs.

Furthermore, it is important to keep the different scales (time and space) in mind. Topics are interlinked and solving one problem in one goal might lead to another problem somewhere else (trade-offs).

It is recommended to identify which subtopics are tackled by the Water and FACCE JPIs to have a detailed overview of where impacts are possible. The targets themselves are often too broad. By mapping the SDGs to the subtopics, it is possible to make links, as well as identify gaps and overlaps.

In addition, the integration of SDGs will help to bring a global aspect to the research agendas. More stakeholders can align under the SDGs. The mandate of the research agendas would be strengthened, as the SDGs **have been agreed on by Member States**. Therefore, using SDGs **brings additional justification** to the strategies.

## Session 2: Identify Synergies between the FACCE JPI and the Water JPI after the End of WaterWorks2015

Moderator: INRA

During this session, the common themes identified during the first workshop were recalled and possible shared research subjects were identified. These include:

- water and agriculture circular economy;
- bioeconomy;
- water shortages/draught management;
- biological aspects (water–plants/animals);
- agroecology;
- soil (pollutants, filtering, oceans);
- health and well-being;
- mitigation of climate change; and
- impacts of both strategies.

A huge potential of synergies between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI lies in **policy**. It was suggested linking efforts to increase the impact on policy in common areas of both JPIs and writing common policy documents. As policymakers do not necessarily read documents produced by the research community (there is a gap), joint efforts by both JPIs to produce policy documents oriented for policymakers may have a bigger impact. However, the research community needs to address more specifically the needs of policymakers (there is sometimes a mismatch between European policies themselves) and comply with the political agendas to create policy–science interfaces and foster their implementation. It is also possible to create a committee of researchers and policymakers to bridge the gap. In addition, the need to allocate funds for the work performed on policy was highlighted during the session.

Another suggestion was the creation of a common label for joint actions of the Water and FACCE JPIs to legitimate shared research actions (or other kinds of initiatives). A **knowledge hub** shared by both the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI on a common interest in water and agriculture was also suggested. For example, a knowledge hub on agriculture and management practices (integrated water management) could be interesting for both. It would be important to identify from the beginning the format of the knowledge hub: long or short term; a common joint knowledge hub or an integrated knowledge hub in a JPI; the selection of experts; and a definition of the limited resources. A common knowledge hub would presumably solve the misunderstandings resulting from terminology, whereas an integrated knowledge hub would help to minimise the duplication of activities. This latter format could be set up through another joint call for knowledge transfer.

Another potential action is the launch of research infrastructures between both JPIs for sensors, irrigation improvement or water management practices for farmers and researchers, following the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructure's (ESFRI) roadmap.

In addition, several actions to continue the interactions between both JPIs after the completion of WaterWorks2015 were suggested:

- Promotion of joint meetings between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI (e.g. for some members of the Governing Board or stakeholders): as the flow of information is not efficient enough between the two JPIs, better exchange and merged Governing Boards could help each initiative learn more

from each other and monitor progress and impacts between the two JPIs. Having common stakeholders for water and agriculture can also help to address the same pool of issues.

- Alignment of data management: this would allow rules to be made about availability, access and data use and make the dissemination and impact of results homogeneous, but would also help to better address this issue in JPIs. This would be helpful for dissemination strategies and policy briefs.
- The mapping of competences or the expertise of members and experts of both JPIs would help to highlight existing overlaps or gaps.
- A second joint transnational call – following the 2016 Joint Call on the mitigation of climate change – could be an example for future collaboration. An activity of this joint call could be the valuation of the impact of ongoing projects and definition of expected impacts of the calls by both JPIs.

Finally, a look at the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) initiative (at the intersection of the FACCE and Water JPIs) for ideas and possible collaboration is advisable.

The plan to connect the two JPIs still needs to be discussed and reassessed as it will depend on the future of both initiatives and their objective to keep their identity or to be included in the partnerships of Horizon Europe.

### Session 3: Policy Impact – How to Increase the Impact of Both SRIA/SRA

Moderator: ANR

It is important to be aware of the different levels of impact: the high-level strategy impact and the research impact itself. Clear aims and targets are required from the beginning, otherwise an impact assessment will not work. Hence, differentiation between the impact of the SRIA itself and the impact of programmes and implementation plans of calls and projects is needed.

In order to increase the impact of both strategies, revision of the communication and dissemination strategies of the FACCE and Water JPIs was discussed; they need to be bidirectional and targeted at the general public and policymakers, as well as private companies. It is further advised to promote the Policy Support Facility (PSF)<sup>1</sup> within both JPIs. This additional funding could be used after the project lifetime for dissemination activities. Impact can be increased through:

- Improved communication to end-users.
- Workshops to bring scientists and policymakers together.
- Having as a requirement and an evaluation criterion for each funded project the preparation of an abstract/summary of the project (short and easily readable) targeted at policymakers.
- Involving the “right people” in funded projects (e.g. having local representatives).
- Including a very short summary of each project (with a focus on the outcomes) in the final report for government and policymakers, as it is included for projects funded by the Water Research Commission (WRC) in South Africa. The summaries need to be accessible from one database.

It was discussed why policy briefs usually have such a low impact on policymakers. One explanation is the mismatch of communication: policy briefs are not adapted to the targeted audience. Wording should be chosen carefully (e.g. “solutions” instead of “challenges”). If a topic is not targeted in the political agenda, it is less likely that the policy brief will be considered by policymakers. In addition, if the timeline does not match the timeline of the political agenda, it is less likely to be considered. It is important to keep in mind that it is not possible to have an impact on everything at once; the expected impacts should be targeted and prioritised. Furthermore, if there is a consensus between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI (one should not prevail over the other) and the objectives/challenges are aligned from the beginning (update of SRIA/SRA and

---

<sup>1</sup> “The Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility is a new instrument that gives Member States and countries associated to Horizon 2020 practical support to design, implement and evaluate reforms that enhance the quality of their research and innovation investments, policies and systems.”

other strategic documents should be made jointly or at least in consultation with the other JPI), the chance to have an impact is significantly higher. Structuring the SRIA/SRA differently was also discussed:

- need to be strategic and not focused on a simple inventory of topics;
- need to be short and goal oriented;
- different versions for different audiences; and
- end-users should be involved in the process of updating the SRIA/SRA.

To improve knowledge transfer, it is advisable to include one dedicated person throughout the lifetime of a project. This would reduce the workload on scientists when explaining the outputs of their work.

The job of a scientist is to write technical output, so an additional person should be included to disseminate the outputs of a project to different audiences in non-technical and accessible English. An increase in the project budget for knowledge transfer is needed.

## Session 4: How to Measure the Impact of Both Strategies (Identify Joint SMART Objectives and Indicators)

Moderator: BLE

Possible impacts of the Water and FACCE JPI SRIA/SRA can be measured by assessing how often they are mentioned in other SRIAs and by assessing how many other organisations have endorsed them.

But why is it important at all to measure the impact? By measuring impact, the money and time spent on, as well as the resources committed to, a particular initiative or action can be accounted for. It is important to measure impact to be able to give feedback to those who have participated in the preparation of the SRIA/SRA or provided funds towards research calls. The higher the impact, the easier it is to convince funding agencies to spend money on research.

Impact needs to be measured at different levels. The following questions and statements can provide guidance:

(A) At the SRIA/SRA level:

- Is there greater interaction and cooperation globally? This is success in terms of the SRIA/SRA, as the budget leverage from these multinational actions is important.
- Are national research agendas influenced so that they become more aligned?
- Did the visibility of SRIA/SRA research topics increase?
- Did the number of participants involved in joint activities increase?
- Is the right type of research – which meets the needs on the ground – being conducted?
- The SRIA/SRA provide a list of knowledge gaps to be filled. What is the total of the funds allocated for each gap?
- Has there been capacity-building and have more networks been built?

(B) At the call level:

- Have the projects achieved the objectives of a call? This should be assessed for all calls and can be based on the actual outputs from research projects.
- How many projects are funded? This is an indication of success and shows the impact of the SRIA/SRA.

(C) At the project level:

- Projects should have an impact at society level.
- Measuring outputs at the end of a project does not allow for impact assessment. This could be considered measuring the potential impact.

- Consider going back to a research team after completion to see if their potential impacts have been realised.
- Citations/number of peer-reviewed publications.

It was also discussed how difficult it is to measure impact, especially policy impact. Usually there is a time lag of 7–10 years before the impact is really apparent. Therefore, it is almost impossible to measure impact quantitatively right away. The same is true for environmental/economic/educational or societal impacts. Impacts could be the adoption of new technologies, a change in behaviours, a change in processes or discussions with policy actors; however, these are difficult to measure quantitatively.

## Closing of the Workshop and the Next Steps

The workshop ended with a summary of the parallel sessions by each moderator. All participants had the chance to learn from the other parallel groups and a final exchange of views was possible. The results of the workshop will feed directly into the update of the Water JPI SRIA and FACCE JPI SRA. Furthermore, the network between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI was strengthened and both JPIs learnt from each other, especially with regard to the state of the art of the updates of the SRIA/SRA.

The organisers would like to thank all participants for their time and their active participation during the workshop.

## Key Findings: Summary

The Water and FACCE JPIs have similar structures with a significant focus on European cooperation and working with third parties. Reaching out internationally is also highlighted as important for both JPIs. Working together may yield a stronger approach and input from the JPIs at the European Commission (EC) programme committee level. Together, it may be possible to have a greater influence on the competitive calls within the EC.

### Session 1: How to integrate SDGs and climate change across both strategies

The SDGs serve perfectly as a link between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI strategies, as they can be used as an intersectoral approach. Here, it is important to consider all SDGs to open the possibility for new networks and solutions.

SDGs 2, 12, 13 and 15 are highlighted for the FACCE JPI. It is also recommended to include SDG 3 (if more than just human health is being considered), SDG 7 (which can be linked with SDG 11), SDG 8 and SDG 17. For the Water JPI, it is strongly recommended to include SDG 9 (industrial water). Water is addressed in almost all of the SDGs, as water is such a broad topic in itself. Therefore, mapping of the subtopics is even more important for the Water JPI. Here, the targets and indicators play an even bigger role. SDGs 8 and 17 can be used as a cross-cutting topic for both JPIs. The mandate of the research agendas would be strengthened, as the SDGs have been agreed on by Member States. Therefore, using SDGs brings additional justification to the strategies.

### Session 2: Identify synergies between the FACCE JPI and the Water JPI after the end of WaterWorks2015

Possible shared research subjects were identified during the workshop. These include the circular economy, the bioeconomy, water shortages/draught management, biological aspects (water–plants/animals), agroecology, soil (pollutants, filtering, oceans), health and well-being, mitigation of climate change and the impacts of the two strategies. A huge potential of synergies for the Water and FACCE JPIs lies in policy. It was suggested linking efforts to increase the impact on policy in common areas of both JPIs and writing common policy documents. If the documents come from both JPIs they may have a bigger impact.

Another suggestion was the creation of a common label for joint actions of the Water and FACCE JPIs to legitimate shared research actions (or other kinds of initiatives). Here, a knowledge hub shared by both JPIs on a common interest in water and agriculture or another common call is suggested.

In addition, the promotion of joint meetings between the Water JPI and the FACCE JPI could help each JPI learn more from the other initiative.

### **Session 3: Policy impact – how to increase the impact of both SRIA/SRA**

In order to increase the impact of both strategies, revision of the communication and dissemination strategies of the FACCE and Water JPIs was discussed; they need to be bidirectional and targeted at policymakers as well as private companies. It is further advised to promote the PSF within both JPIs. However, it is important to keep in mind that it is not possible to have an impact on everything at once; the expected impacts should be targeted and prioritised.

To improve knowledge transfer, it is advisable to include one dedicated person throughout the lifetime of a project. This will reduce the workload on scientists when trying to explain the outputs of their work.

### **Session 4: How to measure the impact of both strategies (identify joint SMART objectives and indicators)**

The possible impacts of the Water and FACCE JPI strategies can be measured by assessing how often they are mentioned in other strategies and by assessing how many other organisations endorse them. By measuring impact, the money and time spent on a particular initiative or action can be accounted for. The higher the impact, the easier it is to convince funding agencies to spend money on research.

Impact needs to be measured at different levels: at the level of the strategy itself, at the level of the resulting call and at the level of funded research projects. One has to keep in mind that measuring impact is very difficult. Impacts could be the adoption of new technologies, a change in behaviours, a change in processes or discussions with policy actors; however, it is not easy to measure these quantitatively.

## Annex 1: Agenda

**WaterWorks2015 ERA-Net Cofund  
Workshop: Common Vision and Adapting the Strategies  
of the WATER and FACCE JPIs**

**Venue:** Agence Nationale de la Recherche – 50 Avenue Daumesnil, 75012 PARIS

**Host :** Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE)

<b>9.00–9:30</b>	<b>Registration and Welcome Coffee</b>
<b>SESSION 1: PLENARY</b>	
<b>9.30–9:45</b>	Welcome by Water and FACCE JPIs, <i>EPA/INRA</i>
<b>9.45–10:15</b>	Summary of previous joint Water JPI and FACCE-JPI Workshop (Bonn, 2017), <i>Meeting Chairperson, BLE</i>
<b>10.15–10:45</b>	Summary of revision process – Water JPI SRIA, <i>EPA</i>
<b>10:45–11:00</b>	Q&A/discussion
<b>11.00–11:15</b>	<i>Coffee break</i>
<b>11:15–11:45</b>	State of the art: FACCE JPI SRA, <i>INRA</i>
<b>11:45–12:15</b>	Presentation: example of project OPERA from WaterWorks2015, <i>INRA</i>
<b>12.15–12:30</b>	Q&A/discussion
<b>SESSION 2: PARALLEL BREAKOUT/DISCUSSION GROUPS</b>	
<b>12:30–12:45</b>	Introduction to Session 2: Parallel Sessions and Breakout Discussion Groups
<b>12:45–13:45</b>	<i>Group picture, lunch and networking</i>
<b>13.45–14:45</b>	<b>Parallel session 1:</b> How to integrate SDGs and climate change across both strategies (SRIA/SRA), <i>EPA</i> <b>Parallel session 2:</b> Identify synergies between the FACCE JPI and the Water JPI after the end of WaterWorks2015, <i>INRA</i>
<b>14:45–15:00</b>	<i>Coffee break</i>
<b>15.00–16:00</b>	<b>Parallel session 3:</b> Policy impact – how to increase the impact of both SRIA/SRA, <i>ANR</i> <b>Parallel session 4:</b> How to measure the impact of both strategies (identify joint SMART objectives and indicators), <i>BLE</i>
<b>16:00–16:45</b>	<b>Rapporteur session:</b> Summary of feedback from the parallel sessions, <i>Session Moderators</i>
<b>16:45–17:00</b>	Wrap-up/next steps; meeting close, <i>BLE</i>

\*

Annex 2: UN SDGs



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**  
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

