

EDITORIAL

May was quite an exciting month, since we were announced that our JPI passed the maturity assessment. We would like to congratulate all JPI partners for the efforts leading to the achievement of this goal. This event does not represent the end of our endeavours, but it is an important milestone leading to the effective coordination of water research, development and innovation activities in Europe. The spring season was intense, but the fall season will not be easier. Yes, we will have some relax time during summer. Make sure your batteries are 100% full when the summer break is over!



EC MATURITY DECISION

In May 4th we were informed by Luisa Prista that the EC had completed the maturity assessment of our JPI, based on the maturity [template](#) and the [revised dossier](#) provided by April 20th. She was pleased to announce us that “the Water JPI proposal has been found sufficiently mature against the criteria adopted by the Council. Accordingly, the EC has decided to start preparing a Commission Recommendation concerning this JPI for EC adoption no later than the fourth quarter of 2011”.



NEXT JPI MEETINGS

During the first GB meeting it was agreed that STB, SAG and EB meetings will take place in October 18th, 19th and 20th, respectively (see the meeting [minutes](#) and [presentations](#)). Board members are requested to save these dates in their agendas.

SAG and STB #1 Meetings

These meetings aim at establishing the board leadership (electing president and vice-president), analysing the Progress Dossier (Vision Document, Mapping, Task Force outputs), proposing additional STB members reinforcing the current STB composition, and elaborating on possible issues for the Strategic Agenda.



EB Meeting #2

In this meeting we will prepare the implementation plan for the rest of 2011 and for 2012. We will also review progress in the TFs and prepare GB meeting #2.

Our planning needs to take into account that that a Coordination and Support Action could be published soon on the topic of this JPI. If this was the case, all three meetings would include in their respective agendas a contribution to the proposal through review, scientific and technological streamlining, and stakeholder consultation.

The second meeting of the Governing Board will take place either at the end of 2001 or in spring 2012. The venue is still to be confirmed.

WssTP FOURTH STAKEHOLDER EVENT

The fourth Stakeholder Event of the [WssTP](#) took place last May 17-18th in Brussels. The meeting gathered a wide representation of water stakeholders from Europe, in addition to a large number of WssTP members.

The Water JPI was invited to present its current developments in a session also composed by Xavier Chazelle ([ACQUEAU](#)) and Theo van den Hoven (WssTP).

The WssTP favoured the rapid development of the “Water Efficient Europe” Innovation Partnership. This initiative will boost innovation in Europe and provide an effective coordination of efforts to bring research and development into the market. The meeting was attended by a large number of European Commission officers from six Direction Generals, who presented their view on water policy. Our colleagues from the WssTP were once again successful in conveying their message to a motivated audience!

COOPERATION WITH THE AWARE PROJECT

The [AWARE FP7 project](#) aims at connecting people for better water management in European coastal waters. A transnational panel of final water users – 30 randomly selected European citizens – has been engaged in a number of workshops with experts, stakeholders and policy makers. They have formulated recommendations about sustainable coastal management. The conclusions of these experiences will be presented and discussed in a public [conference](#) in Brussels next 9 June 2011.

Project leaders invite JPI partners to answer a small on line [survey](#) focusing on the connectivity between research, policy-making and the citizens’ needs. In a few minutes we can provide them with valuable feedback!

PREPARING A SESSION FOR ESOF 2012

The Commission invited us to participate at the Euroscience Open Forum ([ESOF](#)), which will be held in Dublin in July 11-15th, 2012.



ESOF is a periodical pan-European meeting aiming at showcasing the latest advances in S&T, promoting a dialogue on the role of S&T in society and public policy; and stimulating and provoking public interest, excitement and debate about S&T.

We consider that this scenario is a perfect platform to increase the visibility of our JPI and therefore we have agreed with our Irish partners to [submit a proposal](#) for a scientific session. The proposal will be finalised in June.

UPCOMING EVENTS



ECRAAL Conference 2012

[ECRAAL](#) (European Centre for research in Asia, Africa and Latin America) is holding its second international conference - [The Water Node 2012](#) - in January 2012 and is seeking input from the research community world-wide on the topic of International research & innovation co-operation in the EU: the water challenge. Abstracts on this topic should be sent by 15 June 2011.



The CIS-SPI Event

The “2nd Water Science meets Policy” Event will gather scientists, front-runner policy makers and those who ‘bridge’ the two communities in order to share a common view on the links between the ecosystem services concept and the WFD. It aims to explore how the ecosystem services approach can help highlight benefits (social, economical, environmental) from the WFD and boost political levers for the implementation of the WFD. The meeting is scheduled for September 29 and 30th in Brussels.

The 2010 event produced a policy document that has been used in the Thematic Analysis phase of the drafting of our Strategic Agenda,

LINKS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Issues [#1](#), [#2](#), [#3](#), [#4](#), [#5](#), [#6](#) and [#7](#).