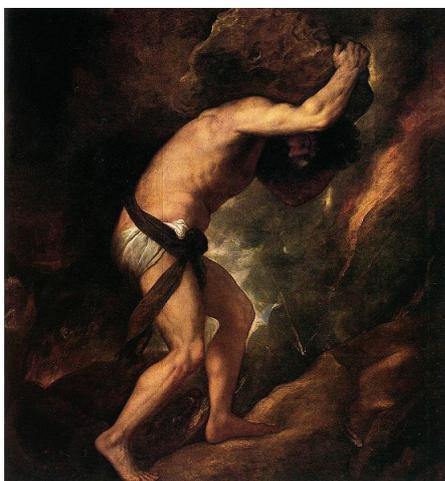


EDITORIAL

[Sisyphus](#) was a Greek king punished by being compelled to roll an immense boulder up a hill, only to watch it roll back down, and to repeat this throughout eternity. This myth comes handy when analysing the mapping effort presented to us by the European Commission last month. It took us quite a big effort to map water Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) funded by Member States and Associated Countries, and we have been congratulated by the outcome. Now, the completeness of the EC mapping has made the boulder of our mapping roll down the hill. The next time we roll the boulder all the way up we will need to improve aspects such as:

- Coverage of actions in mobility and infrastructure; and
- Identification of additional National and regional water-related programmes in JPI partner countries.



Sisyphus by Titian. El Prado Mueum, Madrid.

Now that we are preparing the Coordination and Support Action proposal, it is clear that mapping will need specific attention.

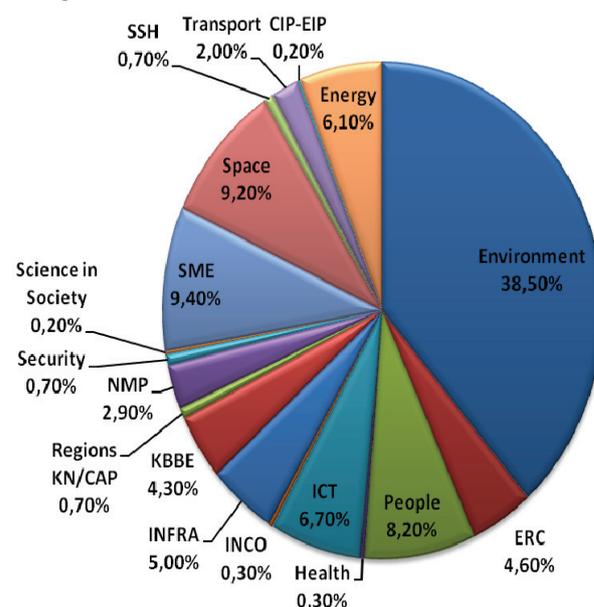
MAPPING EC ACTIVITIES

At the [second meeting of our Executive Board](#), the European Commission presented us the mapping of their activities in the subject of our JPI. As announced in [Newsletter 11](#), a summary of this mapping is presented in this issue.

The figures provide a remarkable insight on RDI funding performed by the EC in water-related areas:

- **1,300 M€** invested in water research projects of relevance to the Water JPI scientific objectives over the last ten years (covering FP6 and current execution of FP7)
- **130 M€/year** is the average annual public funding at Community level
- When these data are added to the estimated **370 M€/year** funded by Member States and Associated Countries, the total public RDI funding at European level stands at **500 M€/year**. The upcoming iterative refinement of the mapping exercise will result in higher, more accurate funding estimates. Updated funding estimates will be available in 2012-13.

The following Figure presents the breakdown of EC funding effort by Research Programmes:



The Figure shows how - within the Cooperation Specific Programme - the thematic areas Environment, Space, Energy, ICT and KBBE are particularly relevant. The other three Specific Programmes maintain a relevant presence in water RDI funding, SME and People showing leading roles.

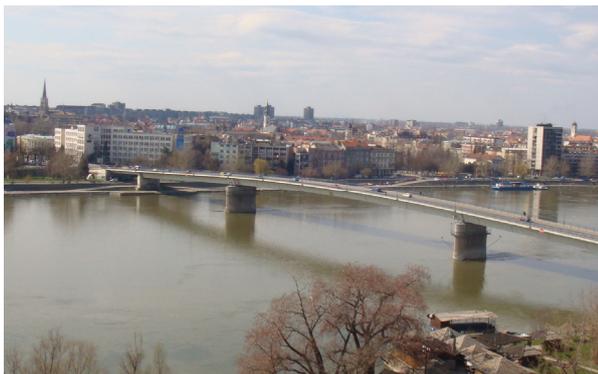
A NEW JPI TASK FORCE IN ACTION!

A new Task Force has been constituted in order to prepare the proposal for the foreseen Coordination and Support Action and to produce a Framework for a Strategic Agenda. The Task Force will be in action till the proposal submission date, which could be March 20th, 2012. Nine Partners are currently teaming up in this Task Force (**DK, ES, FR, IT, FI, NL, NO, PT and UK**).

The Task Force will meet for the first time in December 16th, 2011. The meeting will produce the main lines of the proposal and will distribute drafting responsibilities. It will also review how our Advisory Boards are currently progressing in their contribution to the Strategic Agenda.

JPI-ERANET EVENT

In November 9-10th, the Coordination Team attended the [Annual Joint Programming Event](#) in Brussels. This time, the meeting was a bit wider in scope, and bore the title “Public-Public Partnerships”. The event covered a number of issues related to JPIs, ERANETs, Article 185 and other present and future types of Public-Public partnerships. One of the issues which were formally and informally discussed was the new ERANET instrument to be developed for Horizon 2020. This new instrument (simpler, more efficient) may be used to support the operation of JPIs within Horizon 2020.



According to our perception, the JPI EC funding roadmap could encompass the following steps:

1. The **Coordination and Support Action** will facilitate JPI implementation. In our case, it could span from the end of 2012 till the end of 2015.
2. One of such new **ERANET** schemes (within Horizon 2020, therefore starting

after 2014) may materialize a top-up contribution of the EC to the funding of actions implemented by the JPI. **EC Contribution will only be applied to topics included in Horizon 2020.**

3. JPIs willing to progress further in joint activities, and ready to make a stronger commitment at the Partner Country Level could be moving on to an **Article 185** scheme (no timetable, depending on each case).

Meeting presentations have been posted [here](#).

MEETING WITH CIRCLE2 ERANET

We continue with our meetings with past and ongoing water-related ERANETs. Last Nov. 29th the Coordination Team met with the [CIRCLE-2](#) ERA-NET. We visited their Executive Board meeting in Madrid. CIRCLE-2 gathers 34 institutions from 23 countries committed to fund research and share knowledge on climate adaptation and the promotion of long-term cooperation among national and regional programmes.

WSSTP BOARD MEETING

The water JPI attended the [WssTP](#) Board meeting in November 4th in Amsterdam in the category of observers. The meeting contributed to increase coordination of European initiatives in the field of water.

UPCOMING EXTERNAL EVENTS

World Water Forum

This time, the [event](#) will be organized in March 12-17th in Marseille. The JPI will for sure be there!



ESOF 2012

The Euroscience Open Forum ([ESOF](#)) is Europe’s largest, general science meeting. We are happy to announce the approval of our proposal to hold a session on “*Water Challenges for a Changing World*” in ESOF 2012. The session will be chaired by Laura Burke, Director of the Irish Environmental Protection Agency. It is time now to save the dates of July 11-15, 2012 for this event in Dublin.

LINKS TO THE PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

[First season](#) (issues #1-9), [#10](#) and [#11](#). More documents in our [public repository!](#)