

# NEWSLETTER

“[Rocket boys](#)”

Issue # 19

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

## EDITORIAL

This is the last Newsletter before summertime. We will be back in October 1<sup>st</sup>, with the new hydrologic year. It is time to ponder about what we have done in this course:

- We have enlarged the partnership from 14 to 17 members (16 countries plus the European Commission);
- We have enlarged our advisory bodies;
- We have met five times;
- We have attended 22 different meetings worldwide;
- We have consolidated the Water JPI as an influencing institution within the EU and abroad;
- Last but not least, we have prepared a three-year implementation plan, emerging from our shared vision.



This implementation plan is the core of the **WatEUr** proposal for a Coordination and Support Action. We are currently finalizing the negotiation process for WatEUr, which is expected to start on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

After a second of intimate satisfaction of these achievements, we must now focus on our greatest challenge for the immediate future: the **implementation of WatEUr**. It is now urgent to turn our wills for joint work onto facts and contribute enlarging the common space of Europe... in Water research and innovation.

## PROGRESS IN WATEUR

The indicative date for the completion of WatEUr negotiation is July 6<sup>th</sup>. Progress on this issue has been very intense, and the second iteration was submitted on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

The WatEUr Consortium Agreement will be prepared right after summer, so that a framework for cooperation within this CSA is established before the onset of activities.

Certain WatEUr workpackages are already meet to plan for the work ahead. This is great news and a clear indicator of future implementation success.



## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

### **Ground water extraction and sea level rise projections**

The research group led by Water JPI Scientific and Technological Board Member **Mark Bierkens** has obtained a relevant scientific impact with their [paper](#) “*Past and future contribution of global groundwater depletion to sea-level rise*” (Wada et al., 2012). The paper sets out at quantifying the increasing contribution of groundwater depletion to global sea-level rise. The authors state that groundwater depletion has more than doubled during the last decades. The estimated contribution of groundwater depletion to sea-level rise will grow from 0.57 mm yr<sup>-1</sup> in 2000 to 0.82 mm yr<sup>-1</sup> by 2050. This effect is partially counterweighted by the opposed effect of dam building. Authors project that the cumulative contribution will become positive by 2015 due to increased groundwater pumping. This will result in a total rise of 31 mm by 2050.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Meetings in October 2012**

A two-day Water JPI meeting will be held on October 16 and 17 in Rome. The meeting will focus on warming-up **WatEUr** in anticipation of its kick off early in 2013. Work package and Task leaders will present detailed plans. Partners will discuss these plans and will analyse connections between different workpackages and tasks. The fourth meeting of the Water JPI Executive Board will be held in the afternoon of October 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Meetings in February 2013**

Another two-day meeting will be held on February 5 and 6, 2013. This mega meeting will contain:

- The second meeting of the Scientific and Technological Board and the Stakeholders Advisory Group (Feb. 5).
- The fifth meeting of the Executive Board (Feb. 5).
- The WatEUr kick-off, counting on the presence of the whole Water JPI community (Feb. 6).

The date of the WatEUr kick off has been selected to ensure adequate previous, detailed work package planning and optimum coincidence between strategic decisions on WatEUr progress and Water JPI Governance.

## JPI NEWS

### **GPC, High Level Group on Joint Programming**



The ten JPIs were called upon by the GPC last May in order to present their progress. The agenda, summary conclusions and the presentations by the JPIs can be [downloaded](#). This information comes in very handy to start thinking about the upcoming activities of the Water JPI. Some examples include:



**FACCE JPI** [presented](#) their way forward, consisting on two pilot actions (15 M€ in 2011; 12 M€ in 2012), and the expected start of an ERA-NET PLUS (about 9 M€) in 2013.



**Urban Europe JPI** [reported](#) that the first joint Call will be launched by June 2012. They also evidenced a growing alignment of national and EU Programmes.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### **World Water Assessment Programme**

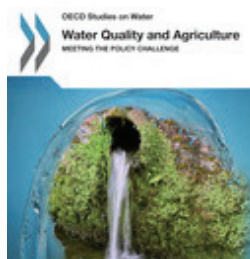


The fourth edition of the World Water Development [Report](#) (WWDR4), 'Managing Water under Uncertainty and Risk' was launched at the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Marseille. The Report underlines the need for an intrinsic

element in decision-making across the whole development spectrum.

### **Water Quality and Agriculture: Meeting the Policy Challenge**

Improving water quality is consistently ranked as a top environmental concern in



OECD public opinion surveys. This [book](#) examines linking policies, current farm management and water quality. It looks at recent trends and prospects for water

pollution from agriculture and the implications of climate change.

## LINKS TO THE PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

[First season](#) (issues #1-9), [second season](#) (issues #10-19). More info on the Water JPI at our [public repository](#)!



## A FINAL RECOMMENDATION

Enjoy the break (*why not at Jandía Beach, Fuerteventura, Spain?*) and come back fresh!