

Water challenges for a changing world

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EDITORIAL

There was a huge response to the first joint call funded by eleven institutions who are deeply involved in the Water JPI implementation. **106 applications** were submitted using the on-line services of the Academy of Finland. The Academy coordinates all the procedures related to the funding of these first transnational projects of the Water JPI. The multi-partner project consortia involve a total of **595 teams** from all participating countries: Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain and also include some organisations from outside Europe.

Clearly the theme: **"Emerging water contaminants – anthropogenic pollutants and pathogens"** has aroused the interest of the international scientific community devoted to research and innovation in the water sector. It is a pity that the available funds, amounting to about 9 million Euros, will not be sufficient to support the activities described in so many of the project proposals. Nor can it fully or satisfy the expectations of this large community, composed of both researchers and companies who are engaged in tackling these serious issues.

The eligibility check on the requirements established in the call announcement started at the beginning of this month and the board of independent evaluators will be appointed soon. The evaluation, funding and follow-up of this pilot call will be discussed in Lisbon on 4 February during an *ad hoc* meeting organised among the funding partners before the General Assembly of **WatEUR**, the coordination and support action of the Water JPI.

The seventh Executive Board hosted by the Portuguese partner FCT will take place on 5 February and will take decisions about further developments of the initiative in the new European research and innovation programme Horizon 2020.

The WATER JPI SRIA is a cornerstone of water research in Europe and abroad

The process of refining and updating the first version of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of the JPI *"Water challenges for a changing world"*, released at the end of May 2013, is ongoing. It is built on the intersection of national strategies and collective discussions within the JPI Advisory Boards and external experts and stakeholders. The new version will be ready by mid 2014.

READ THE INTERVIEW with Patrick Flammarion



Director of the Water Department in the French National Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture and coordinator of the activities related to the elaboration of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda of the Water JPI.

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RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT

Melting of Alps glaciers forced by black carbon



Soot, also known as black carbon, could have been the reason behind the abrupt retreat of the mountain glaciers in the Alps starting in the 1860s, according to a study published in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*

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OPPORTUNITIES

Horizon 2020 launched its first calls on 11 december 2013

Here are listed the open calls on *Water Innovation: Boosting its value for Europe*

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Synergies between Horizon 2020 and Structural Funds

A workshop focusing on "Synergies of European Structural and Innovation Funds and Horizon 2020 for public-public partnerships" such as ERA-NETs, Joint Programming Initiatives, Article 185 initiatives will take place at the European Commission next 13 February 2014 Link [here](#) for details

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NEWSLETTER