

Water challenges for a changing world

HOME Water JPI Implementation Mapping & Agenda Joint Calls Alignment International Cooperation Resources

Last Updated on Monday, 18 May 2015 10:51

05
2015



EDITORIAL

A public consultation to collect opinions on water research and innovation needs is open on the Water JPI website. The first version of our Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda released in June 2014 highlights many priorities in water research, development and innovation identified by the members of the Scientific and Technical Board of the EU joint programming initiative on water challenges and by many European experts consulted during a workshop focused on the elaboration of our [SRIA](#).

Water has a tremendous social and economic impact on our life. Therefore the contribution of our stakeholders and interested citizens to the elaboration of the second version of the Water JPI Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda is crucial and highly appreciated.

Join our public consultation by answering this [questionnaire](#) by 24 May 2015!

PROGRESS ON WATER JPI ACTIVITIES

The ERA-NET Cofund, *WaterWorks 2014-2019 in Support of the Water JPI* (WaterWorks 2014), launched in March 2015 a Cofunded Call on "Research and Innovation for Developing Technological Solutions and Services for Water Systems", with the participation of 17 Funding Partner Organisations (FPOs) from 15 different countries. The deadline for the submission of pre-proposals ended in 4 May 2015, with a very strong participation from the research community and SMEs. At this stage, the submitted pre-proposals are going through a general eligibility check, and each participating country is also evaluating the conformity of the pre-proposals to their National Annexes. Until July, a selected number of pre-proposals will be invited to submit a full proposal.



Juliette Arabi is the new contact person in the Water JPI secretariat managed by the French National Agency for Research (ANR). Her e-mail address is Waterjpisecretariat@agencerecherche.fr

The secretariat for the activities related to the Coordination and Support Action **WatEur** and the ERANET Co-Fund **WaterWorks2014** remains at the Spanish Ministry for Economy and Competitiveness: wateur.secretariat@mineco.es or ww2014.secretariat@mineco.es

The Water JPI at the 7th World Water Forum

The world's biggest triannual water event, the 7th World Water Forum, was held in Daegu & Gyeongbuk cities of Republic of Korea on 12-17 April, 2015. Water JPI was represented in the Forum with a side event session named "**Water JPI: Scaling-up Water RDI Activities from Regional to Supra-Regional Level**" on April 15th. Organized and moderated by the Water JPI's Turkish partner, Turkish Water Institute (SUEN); the session enabled promotion of Water JPI for an international audience. Advisory Board member Seppo Rekolainen from Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) presented the structure and activities of Water JPI briefly. After this presentation, Nathalie Dorfli (BRGM) explained the SRIA concept, as well as the current activities and future plans for international cooperation in detail. Though not crowded in numbers, the participants represented a multinational character, ranging from Morocco to Brazil. In the discussion section, the participants raised questions on ways to cooperate with Water JPI at international level.

The first meeting of new Advisory Boards

The first meeting of the new Scientific and Technical Board and Stakeholder Advisory Group will be held on 4th and 5th of June 2015 in Dublin. The new members of the two Advisory Boards which assist the Water JPI Management Board and are appointed for two years will elect their chairs. They will discuss the Implementation Plan and become friendly with the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda in order to contribute to the ongoing process of updating the Water JPI SRIA. The works of the Advisory Boards will be followed by the meeting of WatEur WP 3 in charge of identifying new water RDI priorities for the second version of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda.

Invitation to the WATER JPI event at EXPO 2015



The Universal Exposition 2015 (<http://www.expo2015.org>) was launched in Milan last 1st May on the theme "**Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life**". This major international event will be an opportunity for the Water JPI team to raise the general awareness on the present and future water challenges and to present the activities performed till now in the water sector.

A Water JPI event will take place at EXPO Milano 2015 on **Wednesday 17th of June in the EU pavilion (11:00-13:00)**. This event is organized in cooperation with DG Research and Innovation of the European Commission according to this [programme](#).

FOCUS ON WATER RESEARCH AND INNOVATION in The Netherlands



The main water research funding agencies in The Netherlands are the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment [IENM](#), the Ministry of Economic Affairs [EZ](#), the Ministry for Education, Culture and Science [OCW](#) and The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research [NWO](#). The total water RDI funding is 100 M€ per year.

The current main R&D programme is the **Topsector Water** which is a collective programme of the Dutch government, private sector and public research institutes to promote and support innovation and export in the private sector. Topsector Water is based on three pillars: Maritime, Delta and Water technology. [The Water Technology](#) sector provides top-quality water and top quality waste water treatment, while keeping the pressure on the

environment as low as possible. Dutch knowledge and technology, developed to produce drinking and industrial water of the highest level, is applied and sold worldwide. This also applies to our knowledge and technology regarding the treatment and reuse of wastewater and water infrastructure.

[Read more](#)

INTERVIEW WITH MARINA VILLEGAS GRACIA



General Director of Scientific and Technical Research in Spanish Ministry of Economic Affairs and Competitiveness, former president of the Water JPI Governing Board.

"The Water JPI will continue to set new objectives and strategies for achieving sustainable water systems in Europe, strengthening European leadership and competitiveness in the water sector and contributing to the alignment of the national and regional programmes on water research, innovation and development."

[Read this interview](#)

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Water management planning: a more adaptive approach could help against future predictions inaccuracy

Water management planning: a more adaptive approach could help against future predictions inaccuracy

Researchers have developed a new method for adaptive planning to protect against failure when future predictions turn out to be inaccurate. They described two methods: the first (Adaptive Policymaking method) is a gradual process for developing a basic plan together with contingency plans; the second (Adaptation Pathways) suggests the creation of a plan, a map of various actions that can be followed or introduced later depending on progress towards targets. They demonstrated their approach using the case of water management in the Rhine Delta region of the Netherlands where coastal flooding causes saltwater intrusion and, during dry periods, a lack of water for purposes including irrigation. [Read the article](#)

DROPLETS

Innovation in the European water sector



A [publication](#) issued by the DG Environment of the European Commission focuses on technological innovations and system adaptations that have potential to be effective on a large scale, especially in wastewater treatment, reuse and recycling.

Water Matters conference



EurEau 40th anniversary Water Matters conference took place in Brussels on March 25th. EurEau represents public and private drinking and waste water service providers. The main objectives of the conference were: to examine how food, water and energy are connected in the context of water scarcity, demographic and climate change; to evaluate the pressures on the water system and to identify resource-efficient solutions to multifaceted problems. [Proceedings](#)

New advanced membrane technology report

The report is now officially made public. It was published in February 2015 and it was elaborated in collaboration with the European Membrane House. Membrane technologies are key to provide competitive solutions for crucial challenges of our societies such as drinking water production, municipal wastewater treatment, industrial effluent processing and reuse. The 2015 report provides trends and conclusions emerged from the work conducted by the Water Supply and Sanitation Technology Platform WG during two years. [Executive Summary](#)

362 proposals submitted for the water innovation call

EC Research & Innovation Participant Portal has published data on Horizon 2020 Societal challenge Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials (SC5) calls closed last April 21. The total amount of submitted proposals is 915. With regard to the Call "Water Innovation: boosting its value for Europe" 362 proposals have been submitted. [To know more](#)

New publication: "LIFE and Climate Change Mitigation"



This brochure gives an overview of the work that the Climate Action's sub-programme LIFE has done up to now in support of climate change mitigation. The publication outlines EU climate policy and presents over 200 mitigation projects from across the EU divided by theme: Energy, transport, agriculture and forestry, peatlands and wetlands as well as projects involving enterprises.

[Read the publication.](#)

Novel ideas and opportunities for the water sector



Water Innovation Europe is the annual conference of the European Technology Platform for Water (WssTP), launched by the European Commission in 2004 to promote coordination and collaboration of Research and Innovation in the European water sector. The event represents the celebration of water innovation. The theme of this edition is "the role of water in the circular economy", challenges and opportunities.

A special attention will be dedicated to industry, agriculture and cities, through exclusive sessions on each topic and on market opportunities outside Europe. It will provide a platform for the most important stakeholders from across the whole water value chain to discuss new technologies and opportunities. Water Innovation Europe will also host the second edition of the prestigious WssTP SME Awards, giving the opportunity to all SMEs with innovative breakthrough solutions in Europe to stand out. The event will take place from the 24th to 26th of June at the Diamant Centre in Brussels.

[Read more information.](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

Call for climate services collaborative research action on climate predictability and inter-regional linkages

The main objective of this call is to contribute to the overall challenge of developing climate services with a focus on inter-regional linkages role in climate variability and predictability. This call aims to support medium-size research project, 3-4 years duration, and



recommends budget from 1 to 3 M€; Closing Date for Submission of Proposals: 1st June 2015. [Further information](#)

Call for proposals on mountains as sentinels of change



This call aims at fostering research on climate, environmental and related societal change in mountain regions, considering both new measurements, recovery of existing data, and the development and use of integrated modeling strategies. The themes are: Drivers of change; Ecosystems and Biodiversity; Water; Hazards, Vulnerability and Risks; Adaptation and Resilience. Closing Date for Submission of Proposals: 1st June 2015. [Further information](#)

New financial instruments for environment, energy efficiency and climate action projects



The European Commission and the European Investment Bank have launched two new financial instruments: the Private Finance for Energy Efficiency (PF4EE) to increase private financing for energy efficiency projects and the Natural Capital Financing Facility (NCFF) to provide funds to support projects that preserve natural capital, including adaptation to climate change. A budget of €100-125 million is available for the period up to 2017. At any time, potential project developers can contact the EIB to express an interest in the facility and discuss the suitability of their ideas. [Further information](#)

Short course on fundamental and advanced topics in hydrogeology and hydrological simulation



The University of Cagliari is organizing a five day course on fundamental and practical aspects of hydrological theory and modeling (July 27-31, 2015). The main focus will be on the subsurface (groundwater and soil water), and special attention will be devoted to other advanced topics. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2015. [Further information](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

HydroGaïa, Montpellier (25 -28 May 2015)



Supported by the Languedoc-Roussillon Region, HydroGaïa represents the Mediterranean and international showcase for sustainable water management solutions and takes place each year in Montpellier. Theme 2015: Water and Economic Developments.

All the major players in the water industry and their applications will participate to this event. The fifth edition of HydroGaïa includes: an exhibition area, a series of lectures, Free B2B meetings and a Prize-giving ceremony to reward excellent initiatives for innovative products or services with LR transfers. [To Know more](#)

XVth IWRA World Water Congress



The International Water Resources Association (IWRA) organizes this event from the 25th to 29th May 2015 at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) in cooperation with the Scottish Government.

The event is hosted in Scotland, the "Hydro Nation", where recent legislation puts water at the heart of the national development agenda. A unique opportunity to showcase and share Scotland's wealth of knowledge in water resource management and to explore Global Water as a resource for economic, social and environmental development. [To know more](#)

Green Week 2015 : Nature – our health, our wealth

NATURE



Green Week Brussels
3-5 June 2015

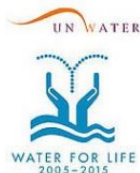
It is the biggest annual conference on European environment policy. The 2015 edition will focus on nature and biodiversity, it represents a unique opportunity for debate and exchange of experience and best practice. It will take place from 3 to 5 June at The Egg Conference Centre, Rue Bara, in Brussels. Satellite [events](#) will be organized throughout Europe.

2015 SusChem Stakeholder Event



This event is organized by the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry (SusChem). The theme of this edition: "Propelling sustainable Chemistry to exciting new frontiers, Implementing the [New Strategic Innovation and Research Agenda](#) (SIRA). It will be a good opportunity to present important new developments for the SusChem community, and to present the key highlights addressed in the SIRA by SusChem Board members. [To know more](#)

Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" (9-10 June 2015, Dushanbe - Tajikistan)



As the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", will end in 2015, there is a need for a comprehensive review and assessment of the activities carried out for the implementation of the Decade goals and it's time to start planning further activities for the post 2015 period. The international network of Basins Organisations (INBO) organizes this High Level Conference to give the opportunity to exchange views on the implementation of the Decade. Representatives from the UN member states, the international and regional institutions, the NGOs, river basin organizations, women association and children and youth organizations and the private sector will participate to the [event](#).

9th WORLD CONGRESS OF EWRA (10-13 June 2015, Istanbul)



This conference is organized by the European Water Resources Association. The choice of Istanbul as the host city for the meeting represents the bridge between Europe and Asia and reflects the willingness for expansion of EWRA towards Asia and other continents. The title of this global scientific and multidisciplinary event is "Water Resources Management in a Changing World: Challenges and Opportunities". [To know more](#)

Workshop on climate change and water scarcity at EXPO 2015

Representatives of the EU projects [CLIMAFRICA](#), [WAHARA](#), [EAU4FOOD](#), [MARS](#), [GLOBAQUA](#), [FIGARO](#) have organized the workshop "Coping with climate change and water scarcity in Africa and Europe: improving monitoring and water use efficiency in agriculture". This event will be held in the European pavilion at Expo 2015 on 17 June 2015 in the early afternoon. Registration is available at this [link](#).



JPI Climate Knowledge Usability WORK-Shop (17 June 2015, Brussels)

This WORK-Shop, will bring together European climate researchers, boundary workers and policymakers to share their experiences, lessons learned, strategies, tools and practices with the aim to bridge the usability gap of climate change research projects. At the end of the workshop practical guidelines will be summarized in a Climate Knowledge Usability Booklet, that will be developed on the basis of the workshop proceedings and made available for all participants and for JPI Climate research teams. [To Know more](#)

I.S.Rivers - 2nd International Conference (June 22-26, 2015; Lyon, FRANCE)



Integrative sciences and sustainable development of rivers is the focus of this international conference organized by ZABR international scientific network. More than 500 delegates are expected to participate from France, Europe and from the rest of the world. The IS.Rivers [conference](#) will concentrate on management strategies and lessons learned from individual case studies with the overall objective to promote exchanges among scientists, river managers and stakeholders

CALL FOR PAPERS

The International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment



The deadline for submission of abstracts for the International Conference on Chemistry and the Environment [ICCE2015](#) to be held in Leipzig, Germany on 20 - 25 September 2015 has been extended until 22 May 2015

Emerging contaminants; analytical methods for trace analysis; water quality, wastewater treatment and reuse, drinking water; nanomaterials and microplastic are important [topics](#) at this conference.