

A common vision for European Water Innovation

September 2011



A word from Our new director!

Dear Readers,

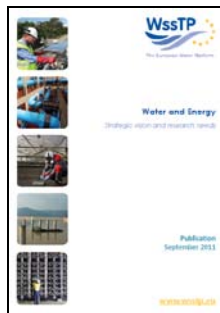
I am very proud to be taking on my new responsibilities as Director of WssTP and ACQUEAU. Many of you already know me from my previous role as Deputy-Secretary General of EUREAU. I strongly believe that I can utilize my new role to help all three organizations better bridge and work together – a function especially crucial as the European Water Research Community needs more coordination and unity than ever. My objectives are to continue the work and strategy of WssTP as it was defined in our updated SRA and Annual Report 2010. Additionally, to strengthen innovation and research, I feel we not only need to pursue a close collaboration with the European Commission, but also with the European Parliament. I look forward meeting you at a future WssTP or European-Water meeting, and I remain keenly at your disposal to keep building and expanding the increasingly valuable activities of our Platform.

Durk Krol, Director of WssTP and ACQUEAU



New publication Water and Energy

In order to cope with the increasing scarcity of raw materials and energy sources, Europe has been making the correct choices with regards to resource-efficiency and innovation.



The water sector not only supports these choices, but is also able to contribute substantially.

On September 6th, EUREAU, with the help of WssTP, organized a seminar on “Resourceful Water” in the European Parliament. On this occasion, Steve Kaye of Anglian Water presented, for the first time publicly, the official sixth scientific publication of WssTP on “Water and Energy: Strategic Vision and Research Needs”. This publication was the result of work undertaken by the Task-Force on “Water and Energy”, which was created last year. Other reports in the pipeline are: Leakages, Sensors and monitoring, Membranes, Brine, Drinking water, and Reuse.

Download

More about the event: <http://eureau.org/energyandwater>

Contact: Steve Kaye, skaye@anglianwater.co.uk

Resource-efficient Europe



Since the launch of the EU flagship initiative for Sustainable Growth, resource efficiency has become one of the most important challenges for the EU towards the Europe 2020 initiative. The flagship initiative for a resource-efficient Europe provides a long-term framework for actions in many policy areas, supporting policy agendas for climate change, energy, transport, industry, raw materials, agriculture, fisheries, bio-diversity and regional development.

As stated by J. Potočník this summer, water is at the heart of this strategy. The EC published “[Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_efficiency/index_en.htm)” document, is based on the public consultation conducted earlier this year (online from February to April), and the Green Week dedicated to this topic.

More information can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_efficiency/index_en.htm



European Innovation Partnership

Through the flagship initiative “Innovation Union”, Research & Innovation Commissioner Ms. Geoghegan-Quinn has proposed the creation of a number of European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs) – including one on water. The EC is making progress in setting up the EIP on “Water Efficient Europe” and WssTP has been in close contact with the Commission on the development of this initiative. Just before the summer break, the EC organised a Member States Consultation event, hosted by WssTP, on the draft EIP proposal with close involvement of WssTP MSMG. A general stakeholder event on the EIP will be organised on 20th October in Brussels with the participation of WssTP.

For more information: durk.krol@wsstp.eu



EU Consultation on Research gaps & needs!

The EU has also launched a new consultation on areas of untapped potential for the development of the European Research Area (ERA) Framework. This crucial consultation will run till 31 November. Within this project, the EU is aiming to address any remaining gaps in the ERA; in order to rapidly bring about its completion by 2014... Here is clearly a key moment to make your voice heard!

Consultation document:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/era/consultation_era.pdf

Consultation reference:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/era/consultation_en.htm

Questions about this newsletter? Contact us: durk.krol@wsstp.eu

Writing Committee: Mike Farrimond, Céline Hervé-Bazin, Heather Ibaqal, Simon Ingall, Durk Krol, Daniel Villessot,

Welcome!

New Board member

The Board has appointed Lena Söderberg as new board member to serve out Durk KROL's mandate as a board member for College C. Lena is the director of Svenskvatten, the Swedish Water and Waste Water Association and also board member of EUREAU.

New Task-Force leader "Water reuse"

The Board and the PCC are very pleased to welcome Thomas WINTGENS and David Smith as respectively chair and co-chair of the TF Water Reuse, and Antonio Lo Porto as co-leader of the PP Agriculture. We wish them all the success in their work for the WssTP.

New recruitment

WssTP would like to welcome 2 new interns who will be working with us for the next 6 months: Heather Iqbal and Simon Ingall. Heather is currently completing a Masters in Global Journalism from the University of Sheffield, specialising in online journalism and political communication. Simon is currently undertaking an MSc in Water Management from Cranfield University.

ChemWater

ChemWater is a new EU funded project based on the successful collaboration between WssTP and Suschem, the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry. This project aims at coming to a more efficient water use to avoid the anticipated impacts of water shortages driven by climate change and other factors. Process industry, especially chemistry plays an essential role: It is both a major water user and a key solution provider for the development of future water technologies. The project is coordinated by DECHEMA.

More: <http://chemwater.eu/>

A look at...

Stockholm World Water Week

The Stockholm Water Week was held from September 21st to 27th in Stockholm, Sweden. More than 2,600 participants gathered for an edition dedicated to "Water in an Urbanizing World". The objectives of the discussions were clear: to address the challenges stemming from the fact that, before 2050, 80% of the human population will inhabit cities.

This urban explosion will increase pressure on natural resources; on interactions between transport systems for such resources within the city; on campaigns to limit migration to cities; and finally and most significantly, on urban planning and infrastructure management.

The conference opened by recognizing the underlying importance of investments to be made by cities if they want to face urban expansion. The technological solutions exist, but need to be applied appropriately and reconsidered to face new and incumbent urban issues. WssTP has already provided key recommendations on these on-going urban challenges through its publication on "Sustainable Water Management inside and around large urban areas", and several of its FP7 projects such as PREPARED, TRUST... To further contribute towards and address these challenges, WssTP will release new reports on "Water quality", "Sensor and monitoring" or "Leakages" by the end of 2011.

A message from the Board

The Board met on September 6th in Berlin, hosted by DVGW and KWB. It seized the opportunity of a fresh start after the summer break to address a number of strategic issues to further develop its activities and the membership of the WssTP. WssTP will start working on a permanent base with interns and seconded by members. Secondment makes it possible for WssTP members to allow some of their staff to gain experience in an international / Brussels context. In order to facilitate the work between interns and Board members, WssTP will rent accommodation in Brussels which can also be used for professional purposes. The Board will also actively pursue the expansion of the membership base of WssTP and has appointed a task force consisting in a number of board members to lead on this strategic issue together with the director. In addition WssTP will engage with other stakeholders in Water RTD&I. The task-force will connect with regional authorities, other ETPs and specifically ACQUEAU and the Water JPI through partnership agreements. The Board also expressed its satisfaction with the 2011 FP7 call. Many of the issues that WssTP has been pushing are found in the call; at least 20 work packages covered water-related issues promoted by WssTP.

Agenda

Water in the green economy in practice towards Rio+20

3-5 October, Zaragoza, Spain

JPI stakeholder Advisory Group

19 October, Brussels, Belgium

International Water Week

29 Oct. – 6 November, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

10 October

WssTP – ACQUEAU – JPI coordination meeting
Brussels, Belgium

12 October

WssTP Executive Committee,
Amsterdam, the Netherlands

20 October

PCC meeting
& EIP Stakeholder event
Brussels, Belgium

26 October (tbc)

WssTP workshop on sensors for industry
Brussels, Belgium

4 November

WssTP Board Meeting
Amsterdam, the Netherlands

23 November

Joint Forum of the Polish Platform of Environmental
Technologies and WssTP: "Water in urban areas"
Poznan, Poland

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