

A common vision for European Water Innovation



Green week for Climate Change

Each year, the DG Environment organises the Green Week. In 2009, the event focused on “**Act and Adapt: Towards a New Climate Change Deal**”. More than 4.000 visitors joined 40 sessions and 60 exhibitors.



The event set **four pillars** for discussion: 1/ Policies and Measures. 2/ The international context and upcoming Copenhagen. 3/ Right now needs. 4/ Long term and realistic sustainable development model.

In this regards, Stavros Dimos, Environment Commissioner, highlighted the need **to act, to cut global emissions** and to move towards a **low-carbon world economy**. There are two main outcomes from these challenges: 1/ To push for new industrial sectors 2/ To push towards a stronger legal framework. He reminded that Europe already set the most ambitious legal measures to achieve “green growth”. He underlined the key role of Europe during the next Copenhagen negotiations. More: <http://greenweek2009.alligence.com/>



Managed Aquifer Recharge

A first step to develop a research proposal for the EU

During the Vienna Workshop of the WsTP the topic “Managed Aquifer Recharge” (MAR) was identified as a cross-cutting theme covering issues in different pilot programs (urban areas, coastal zones, agriculture, and degraded areas). In order to develop a common view of the current state-of-the-art and research needs, a task force on MAR was initiated that should involve major research institutions in this field and representatives of the different pilot programs.

The task force “MAR” held a first workshop in Graz, organized by the Berlin Center of Competence for Water (KWB) and hosted by the Competence Network Waterpool and the Graz-AG. Participants included representatives of the current and past major EU research projects in MAR (Reclaim-water, ART-DEMO, GABARDINE) from universities and geological surveys, as well as WsTP members from different pilot programs (coastal zones, urban areas, degraded zones).

In a first session, researchers from Denmark, Spain and Germany introduced the past major research projects with the main outcomes and the identified topics for further research.

The second session included reports from a wide range of case studies (e.g. Barcelona, Berlin, Israel, Poland, the Middle East and China) with an identification of the issues that are faced in practice. The common view was that MAR is a valuable method that can enable a sustainable integrated water resource management and therefore needs to be included in the overall strategy to achieve a good qualitative and quantitative status of ground- and surface water in the EU. On the other hand, current regulations are very strict and do not distinguish between different hydro geological, climatic and socio-economic conditions that currently occur or may be faced in the future within the EU.

The participants of the workshop agreed on a co-operation to update the WsTP strategic research agenda and the state-of-the-art on MAR included in the report on “alternative water resources”. (Cf *Summary*) In addition, the task force will develop a precise idea for one research proposal to be presented to the EU Commission in September 09.



Sweden

Leading the EU Presidency

Since July 1st, Sweden has taken the European Presidency succeeding to Czech Republic. Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt is responsible for the work of the Swedish Presidency.

More: <http://www.se2009.eu/en>

Every year, since 1991, Stockholm hosts the World Water Week both political and technical event. The next World Water Week will be held August 16-22th. This year, the theme is “Responding to Global Challenges: Accessing Water for the Common Good”.

More: <http://www.worldwaterweek.org>

More about water in Sweden:

<http://www.wsstp.eu/content/default.asp?PageId=401>

For more information,

gesche.gruetzmacher@kompetenz-wasser.de

Summer Reading

Now on-line!

1. Minutes of meeting and presentations from the workshop organised by the pilot "Urban areas".
2. Report and presentation from the task force "Climate Change".
3. Report on the workshop from pilot "Coastal Zones".
4. Presentations from the workshop organised by pilot "The Degraded zones".
5. Context of Managed Aquifer Recharge for Alternative water from the task force "Managed Aquifer Recharge".

PILOT 6:

Call for candidature!

The Pilot 6 "Hydro-Climatic Events" is looking for a new Leader. Addressing a major European water problem, a pilot helps to facilitate pre-competitive phase of generic research and enabling technologies development and commercial phase number of implementation cases.

We are seeking for a candidate to take over the current working group. His/her first task will be to:

- Participate to the update of the SRA (final report due for December)
- Organise a workshop of the group before November 2009.

Candidates must be proposed by a corporate member of WsstP and **must send their curriculum before August 31st**.

For more information, contact us

Welcome

The WsstP welcomes 3 new members in Category C:

AQUAFIN

www.aquafin.be

COPA COGECA

www.copa-cogeca.be

FEDERUTILITY

www.federutility.it

SUSCHEM

Towards collaboration



After the encouragement of the European Commission to work together with other ETPs, SUSCHEM and WsstP officially met on July 8th, in Brussels, Belgium.

The meeting aimed at reuniting the chairs of the two ETPs in order to set a formal framework of collaboration provide joint recommendations to the European Commission on common topics related to water and industry.

SUSCHEM presented their activities and their projects emphasizing the potential areas of collaboration with the WsstP highlighting their needs to further develop technological related to the water management, water reuse, water consumption, etc. The WsstP stressed out that chemistry issues were tackled by the pilot working on Industry and that it could bring interesting projects to its activities. The two ETPs met again on July 27th to set the road map to concrete steps for collaboration.

For more information, contact albert.jansen@tno.nl

Water, a key word in Climate Change

"In reponse to the Commission White Paper of April 1, the Presidency sought Member State input on questions about adapting agricultural practices to climate change, asking Ministers to outline what they see as the most important aspect of adaptation and the most strategically important area of research on adaptation (...) the word most often repeated was "water" – notably the need for the better management of existing resources and, linked to research, the need for less demanding production practices & varieties."

From Agrafacts, July 13th 2009

Contact on Agriculture,
Tania.Runge@copa-cogeca.be

Links

Water and Industry

http://news.euractiv.com/Go/index.cfm?WL=95996&WS=56215_3523067&WA=8459

Lisbon Agenda

http://news.euractiv.com/Go/index.cfm?WL=96444&WS=56215_3523067&WA=8460
http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy-efficiency/sweden-tables-eco-efficiency-roadmap-europe/article-183715?_print

Innovation unlimited

<http://blogs.ec.europa.eu/innovationunlimited/>

Agenda WsstP

July 27th

Workshop on SUSCHEM and WsstP,
in Brussels, Belgium

July 30th

Workshop on "Evaluation of effectiveness of economic instruments in integrated water policy", in Genoa, Italy

August 19th

Workshop on Pilot "Industry"
Workshop on Water and Energy
Brussels, Belgium

August 28th

Conference A.E.R Youth Summer School
in Valencia, Spain

September 1st

Board Meeting by web conference

For more events:

<http://www.wsstp.eu/content/default.asp?PageId=270&LanguageId=0>

Last @ Updates

The website of the WsstP continues to improve. A working area has already been created for each pilot; two new areas for Database on water and on European research projects are developed. The next step is to complete the Information centre and tools for Members. Don't hesitate to contact us to keep improving the www.wsstp.eu