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**STAKEHOLDERS EVENT OF THE WssTP**  
**Strengthening European research and innovation for water**  
**June 1<sup>st</sup> 2010**

**Focus:**

The new innovation approach promoted by the European Commission has brought a clear stronger focus on building an economy based on innovation, market driven and technology initiatives and policies.

The WssTP as the European Water Platform acts as a key player to promote research and technology in the water sector. It delivers *a common vision for water innovation* focusing on technology developments and needs in a short and long term agenda. One of the missions of the platform is to shape the future priorities for research and innovation; it includes promoting water in the political agenda and recommendations to promote coordinated research in the water sector.

The stakeholder event is therefore a key opportunity to discuss the potential next steps for shaping research needs and priorities to boost innovation incorporating the current initiatives for research and innovation at the European level such as FP7, JPI, EUREKA Cluster.

**Objectives:**

- Identify barriers, opportunities and challenges to promote an i-conomy. Debate possible quantified objectives for the water sector in terms of research and innovation.
- Present on-going research projects funded by the EC that bring added-value towards research and innovation approach. Discuss different innovation approaches to support Life Cycle Assessment, knowledge transfer and coordinated research.
- Discuss the future of research priorities and needs of the water sector to provide recommendations to boost research and innovation at the European level. Debate how to involve industries and how to promote a future PPP for the water sector.
- Raise awareness on research and innovation challenges in the water sector
- Strengthen links between the different stakeholders working on water and environmental issues

## **Draft Agenda**

9.00-9.30 Registration and Welcome coffee

9.30-11.30 **Boosting innovation through the European water sector**

Opening of the session:

- “Addressing water challenges in the European context”,  
Manuela Soares, Directorate Environment, DG Research
- “Approach of DG Environment to boost research and innovation”  
Peter Gammeltoft, Head of Unit, DG Environment
- “Water challenges for a changing world”  
José L. Garcia Lopez, MICINN
- “Competitiveness, growth and innovation of European eco-industries”  
Janus Gohr Mørk, DG Enterprise and Industry
- “Importance of vision and strategy for research and innovation”  
Durk Krol, WssTP Board representative

Focus: How could ongoing and future research contribute to promote market driven solutions?  
How could we optimize the impacts of research on the European water market?  
How quantified objectives and which objectives should be fixed to boost innovation in the water sector?

11.30-11.45 BREAK

11.45 -13.15 **Challenges of cross-cutting issues: what tools towards innovation?**

- “Improving innovation in the water industries: challenges and opportunities”  
John Hargreaves, Director of Indepen, UK
- “Standardisation and public procurement”  
Murielle Babin Gay, DG Enterprise and Industry (tbc)
- “Water innovates: opportunities of ACQUEAU, EUREKA Cluster for water”  
Xavier Chazelle, Representative of ACQUEAU
- “Collaboration to bring innovative solutions, example of Chemwater”  
Sylvie Baig, SUEZ Environnement and Albert Jansen, TNO
- “Water and Energy nexus as potential industrial breakthrough”  
Steve Kaye, Anglian Water

Focus: How concretely boost water innovation?  
What are the active steps and existing means?  
How promotes stronger involvement of stakeholders specially industries and SMEs?

13.30-14.30    **BROKERAGE LUNCH FOR NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES**

14.30-15.45    **Support implementation and applied research on water key challenges**

How ongoing research could support boosting innovation?

Examples of innovative topics for the future of the water sector

- “Sensors and Monitoring”  
FP7: SECUREAU, *Sylvain Fass, University of Nancy, France*
- “Environmental footprint on wastewater treatment plants”  
Life +: BIOCELL, *Carlos Montero, CETAQUA, Spain*
- “Wastewater treatment and sludge”  
CIP: WasteRed, *Antonia Maria Lorenzo, BIOAZUL, Spain*

15.45-16.00    **Break**

16.00-17.00    **Funding projects: shaping the future of research and innovation**

What should be promoted in the future to boost research and innovation?

What are the possibilities for funding research today and for tomorrow?

- “Funding opportunities of the CIP”  
*Beatriz Yordi, Head of Unit, Market replication Eco-Innovation and Intelligent Energy, Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI)*
- “CIP funding possibilities in the area of ICT for Energy and Water Efficiency”  
*Manuel Monteiro, Deputy Head of Unit, ICT Sustainable Growth, DG Information Society and Media*
- “Activities of NMP workprogramme of 2011”  
*Soren Bowadt, Programme Officer, Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies, DG Research*
- “Eco innovation call of the Environment WP2011”  
*Andrea Tilche, Head of Unit, DG Research*

17.00            **End of meeting, Andrea Tilche, Head of Unit, DG Research**