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Water research in the EU Framework Programme

**SCENES Final Conference
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OVERVIEW

- ❑ SCENES underpinning EU policy needs
- ❑ Perspectives for Water Research at EU level
- ❑ POST FP7: Common Strategic Framework



WATER FUTURES

- **Climate change** (increased precipitation and rising temperatures) will have considerable **impacts on water resources** (quantity and quality) and **aquatic ecosystems** both **directly** and **indirectly** by changing the behaviour of the stressors and drivers (land use, nutrients and contaminants, agricultural crops and practices etc) and the baseline reference conditions.
- **EU's White Paper "Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action"** calls for adaptation actions to deal with such unavoidable impacts.
- Water authorities, policy makers and relevant stakeholders need to know the **future state of waters in Europe** to anticipate problems and timely plan measures to address them in line with the WFD.



SCENES underpinning EU policy needs

- According to the **EEA State of the Environment Report** achievement of EU WFD goals by 2015 is far from sure due to many challenges, e.g. alteration of river basins and waters due to human activities has lead to major adverse ecological effects” etc.
- The **2012 Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Water** will be the policy response at European level to address the “challenges”. It will, inter alia, assess the **vulnerability of water resources** under different **climate and socioeconomic scenarios** and identify **options for adaptation strategies and measures** at sectoral and cross-sectoral level (time horizon 2020).
- A study on ***“Climate adaptation — modelling water scenarios and sectoral impacts” (ClimWatAdapt)*** has been tendered by DG Environment to look into the future (2030, 2050) of Europe’s waters for EU-27 and identify **regions** and **sectors** with higher **vulnerability** to climate change and **assess possible adaptation measures** and their ecological, social and economic **costs and benefits**.
- **SCENES scenarios and modelling** form the basis for the analysis.

EUROPE 2020 strategy: The context

- President Barroso put innovation at the centre of the Europe 2020 Strategy;
- **7 Flagship initiatives**, including *“Innovation Union”* and *“Resource-efficient Europe”*;
- **3 mutually reinforcing objectives:**
Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive growth
- **Headline targets**, including re-confirmation of the target to spend **3% of GDP on R&D**;
- Endorsed by **February European Council (Heads of State)** as key to future growth and jobs

Towards an Innovation Union

A **flagship initiative** to:

- Boost **excellence** in **Research & Innovation**;
- Prioritise resources around **major societal challenges** requiring **EU-scale approaches** (Climate change, Health and ageing, efficient of natural resources, food security, ...)
- Put in place **smarter framework conditions** more **conductive to innovation**, make **Europe more attractive** for Research and Innovation and **reduce time-to-market**;
- Mobilise **public procurement of innovations**;
- Tackle **fragmentation** and **duplication** and establish **critical mass** through European collaboration;
- Use **public funding to leverage private R&D** (e.g. the EU Risk Sharing Finance Facility);

Not just a **science** policy, but also an **economic** policy and an **employment** policy

Towards a Resource-efficient Europe

A **flagship initiative** (2050 perspective) to:

- decouple **economic growth** from **resources use**;
- secure **supply** of essential **resources**;
- **limit** climate change and environmental **impacts** on resources and their use



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Water research in Europe

Many programmes, initiatives, networks and actors at various levels ! How to solve the jigsaw ?

A strong and dynamic European Research Area (ERA) in the water sector is needed to:

- avoid costly overlaps and unnecessary duplication;
- create a single market for water Research and Innovation;

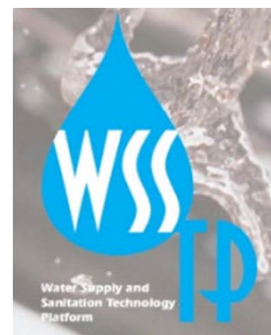


Water JPI

Joint
Programming
Initiative

**National
programmes**

Water ERA-NETs



Others...



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Towards Joint Programming for WATER

“Water Challenges for a Changing World”

- Proposed and led by **SP** and **NL** and supported by **12+ Member States** and **Associated Countries** (variable geometry) for a more strategic and more focused Water Research in Europe through increased cross-border collaboration;
- MS define, develop and implement a common **Strategic Research Agenda** based on a **common vision** on how to address the water societal_challenge.
- **Not a new instrument** for Community research;
- A **new process led by MS** (and the Commission only as facilitator) to make **optimal use of existing R&D instruments** (existing national programmes or the setting up of entirely new ones) for **economies of scale** and larger **critical mass**;



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Towards a European Innovation Partnership for water

“Water efficiency” as candidate for an EIP is currently **under consideration** with the tasks to:

- **coordinate** policy and funding;
- **streamline, simplify** and better **coordinate** existing instruments, initiatives and (public and private) investments, in the water sector in Europe;
- involve **all key players**, including **regulators, standard-setters** and **procurers**, across the entire innovation chain, borders, disciplines, sectors, institutions...;
- **remove bottlenecks** to swiftly **transform ideas and research into successful innovative products or services**;

To be selected, EIPs must demonstrate **clear** and **verifiable goals**, significant **market potential**, strong **political** and **stakeholder commitment** and adequate **financial support**;

Common Strategic Framework (FP8)

FP8 or CSF will be designed as a **spearhead of the Europe 2020 strategy** – with sustainable jobs and growth and tangible environmental and health benefits as the overarching aim. It will propose **major changes** to future EU research and innovation funding (to start in 2014), such as:

- ☐ Focus on **Grand societal** and **pan-European policy** challenges;
- ☐ Link closely **RTD & innovation** with a coherent set of funding instruments along the **whole innovation chain** (from basic research to market uptake);
- ☐ Mobilize **ALL ACTORS** and interface with other **public** and/or **private initiatives** in Europe;
- ☐ Bring together **RTD** Framework Programme, the **Competitiveness and Innovation** (CIP) Framework Programme and the **European Institute for Innovation and Technology** (EIT);
- ☐ Strengthen complementarities with the **Structural Funds**;



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Green Paper: Towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU Research and Innovation Funding

- Before the Commission finalises its FP8 legislative proposals, it presented the **Green Paper** for consultation;
- It seeks Stakeholders' views on key questions regarding the **structuring** of the CSF (or FP8), its **priorities** and the **instruments**;
- The public consultation website:
<http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union>
- Consultation open until **20 May 2011**.
- The Commission plans to put forward proposals for post 2013 EU budget in June 2011 and the Common Strategic Framework by end of 2011;
- **The Legislative decisions** on the Common Strategic Framework by the Council and European Parliament are expected in 2012-13;
- The **Common Strategic Framework** expected to enter in force as from 2014;



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THANK YOU