

A common vision for European Water Innovation



Dear WssTP friends,

2016 is officially upon us and WssTP kicked off the New Year with two important meetings for our platform.



EP Water Group Plenary session 'Water in the Circular Economy'

A Board Strategy meeting was held on 14-16 January in Helsinki which inaugurated the New Year with significant outcomes for WssTP's new implementation plan. Following this, WssTP hosted its Water Vision 2030 workshop on 20th of January in Brussels. The Water Vision 2020 meeting served as milestone in the process of defining the new WssTP Water Vision which is going to be ready in the course of February 2016. The new WssTP Water Vision will come out as an important tool to make clear the essential role of water in our society and economy. As such, it will help us raise the profile of water with decision-makers, which can be ultimately reflected in the upcoming Horizon2020 Work Programme.

On 27 January 2016, a wide diversity of stakeholders was brought together by MEP and Chairwoman of the EP Water Group, Esther de Lange to discuss the role of water in the circular economy at the European Parliament. The meeting, organised by WssTP, in its capacity as the management body of the EP Water Group, attracted a large number of participants. You can read more details in the next article.

As a firm supporter of the EIP on Water, WssTP will be present at the upcoming EIP Water Conference on 10 February in Leeuwarden (NL). WssTP WGs will also make their presence felt, as many of them have already seized this opportunity to organise back-to-back meetings.

The Netherlands has taken over the Presidency of the Council of the EU, with a work programme that focuses, among others, on a forward-looking climate and energy policy. In this regard, the EU Dutch presidency appears to bring forward a coherent approach to issues concerning the climate, the environment and sustainability. WssTP will take a closer look at the EU Dutch presidency and its water-related priorities, featuring a special editorial in its next newsletter.

In the spirit of new beginnings, I am glad to share with you that the preparations for the 2016 edition of Water Innovation Europe conference are already in full swing. 'Water-smart for resilient societies' is the hot topic that our annual stakeholder conference will address from the 21st to 23rd of June in Brussels.

Out with the old and in with the new. No matter the circumstances the New Year will bring along, we need to be ready to create new opportunities for the European water sector. The responsibility to make 2016 a landmark year for the water sector lies in our hands. In this common pursuit, will you be standing with us? I look forward to working closely with you in 2016.

After the adoption of the new Circular economy package by the European Commission on 2 December 2015, the EP Water Group hosted a plenary session to discuss the role of water in this new action plan. The plenary session on 'Water in the Circular Economy' took place on 27th of January at the European Parliament in Brussels.

Esther de Lange, MEP and President of the EP Water Group opened the session by giving an introduction speech and welcomed the keynote speakers of the meeting: **Diane d'Arras**, VP Water Europe SUEZ Environnement, **Jan Busstra**, Water and Marine Director of Dutch Ministry for Infrastructure & Environment, **Christina Von Westernhagen**, Director EU Government Affairs and Public Policy Dow Chemical and **Marianne Wenning**, Director for 'Quality of Life, Water & Air' in DG Environment, European Commission.

The speakers highlighted water scarcity, water efficiency and nutrients recycling as important challenges related to water and stressed out water reuse, as a solution with great potential to ensure water to all users. It was also made known that DG Environment is in the process of developing a more precise action plan in the framework of the new Circular Economy package that includes water. The DG Environment is also working to develop possibilities for funding water and water reuse projects under EFSI (Junker's Fund). The EC proposal on the minimum requirements towards irrigation and water reuse is planned for the mid-2017.

All speakers emphasised that the Circular economy concept has to be coordinated with already existing EU legislation (as WFD, Groundwater Directive, Fertilisers regulation). One conclusion for the 'water community' is

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that the position of water in the circular economy package needs to be strengthened. **The presentations of the EP Water Group Public session are available [here](#).**

Do not miss out on our updates on EU water policy developments, coming out every month in WssTP members' newsletter.



SAVE THE DATE Water Innovation Europe 2016



WssTP is excited to start the preparations for the 5th edition of its annual stakeholder conference 'Water Innovation Europe 2016'. This year, our conference is coming back to focus on '**Water-Smart for Resilient Societies**'. The conference will take place from **21 to 23 June 2016** in Brussels. More information will become available soon on the [conference's website](#).



World Water-Tech Investment Summit 2016 £200 discount for WssTP network!

WssTP is a media partner of the forthcoming World Water-Tech Investment Summit that takes place at the Hilton Tower Bridge in London from 22-24 February. This international summit welcomes senior delegates and speakers from the investment community, utilities, engineering and chemical leaders, innovative tech companies and government.

60 thought-leading speakers will explore how innovation can address the most urgent issues facing the world's water supply, including:

- Climate change and conflict: Towards greater flexibility and resilience
- Dwindling resources: Maximising value from water and used water
- Rising prices: Generating cost-effective and sustainable alternative water

- Swelling cities: Smarter planning for sustainable growth
- Water security: Engaging industrial water users in stewardship
- Partnerships for innovation at a time of crisis

The summit also showcases new innovation from around the world through technology showcase sessions and workshops. Held in partnership with UKTI, the event will welcome delegations from the USA, Kurdistan, Saudi Arabia, Dubai, India, Singapore and the Philippines.

To join the debate at Europe's leading water investment summit, click [here](#). Quote BR16 to save £200 off the registration fee.



EIP Water Conference 2016

How is water innovation succeeding in Europe?
Leeuwarden, The Netherlands - 10 February 2016

The EIP Water Conference 2016 is just around the corner. More than 600 participants are already registered for the 3rd edition of the EIP Water Conference dedicated to the theme "**How is water innovation succeeding in Europe?**" High-level representatives of the public and corporate water sector will be all there. WssTP is going to participate in the conference's exhibition area. Why don't you pass by to meet us in person? Looking forward to seeing you there. Register [here](#) by 31 January.



Have you secured your place for the Global Water Summit 2016? 19th & 20th April, Abu Dhabi

The Global Water Summit is the flagship water industry event of the year. Attracting high-level executives from industry, municipalities and international water companies, the Global Water Summit gives you the opportunity to connect with hard-to-reach industry insiders that will not attend any other water event.

2016's Global Water Summit focuses on the theme of 'Water 2050', breaking new ground for the sustainability of water as a source of business and economic growth. We will be asking you to imagine what the world of water will look like in 2050. What will we be leaving behind for the next generation? [Book your delegate place today!](#)

Join WssTP!



WssTP counts now 153 members, a constant growth since its creation in 2007. As a WssTP member, you can have a European impact on the EU Water RTD&I strategy and be benefited from numerous services including:

- Networking workshops and brokerage events Information on the latest news about calls for proposals and relevant EU policy
- Take a leading role in one of our working groups
- Contribute to the shaping of relevant EU policy and the priority setting for public funding, research and innovation at EU level.

For more information, please contact [Durk Krol](#) !



Welcome 3 New Members

UAB

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

UAB, Spain

UAB is a leading university with an international look. For UAB, internationalisation is one of the tools to achieve its objectives in offering quality education, research and knowledge transfer. Its internationalisation strategy is based on three fundamental lines of action: mobility, collaboration and cooperation, and the attraction of talent. To foster these objectives, UAB places special importance on strategic alliances with other universities through a variety of consortiums and networks. *For more information, please click [here](#).*



IZAR, Italy

Izar offers to the business world suitable support and effective tools to introduce innovation and generate profit, business development and long term growth. Izar has a well-established and extensive business experience in different industries and complex market environments which allows it to provide highly specialized services to support growth in different areas. *For more information, please click [here](#).*



IREN, Italy

Iren is a large and dynamic multi-utility company which operates in the sectors of electricity, thermal energy for district heating and gas, and in the management of integrated water services, environmental services and technological services. IREN has a network of more than 15,400 km of aqueduct, of 9,100 km of sewerage networks and 1,076 depuration systems serves more than 2,400,000 persons. IREN takes care also of the planning, maintenance, strengthening, the measurement and the development of water / sewerage networks. *For more information, please click [here](#).*

AGENDA

9 February 2016

eafip-Workshop for Water Sector Procurers
Leeuwarden, The Netherlands

10 February 2016

EIP Water Conference 2016
Leeuwarden, The Netherlands

11 February 2016

Mayors&Water Conference

15 February 2016

Conference on Energy-Intensive industries

18 February 2016

SPIRE Brainstorming days

22-24 February 2016

World Water-Tech Investment Summit
2016

29 February 2016

EURECA in Torino
Turin, Italy

2-3 March 2016

Urban Future Global Conference
Graz, Austria

19-20 April 2016

Global Water Summit 2016

27 - 29 April 2016

8th European Conference on Sustainable
Cities & Towns
Bilbao, Spain

13 -16 June 2016

IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water
and Wastewater Technologies
Jerez da la Frontera, Spain

21-23 June 2016

Water Innovation Europe 2016
Brussels, Belgium

www.wsstp.eu

On Twitter: [@wsstpeu](#)

On LinkedIn: [The WssTP Group](#)