

A common vision for European Water Innovation



Dear WssTP friends,

Water Innovation Europe 2019 is one more year, around the corner. This year's edition will again provide visibility for WssTP Working Groups, Cluster Leaders, successful projects and innovations, will host their meetings, and, of course, the Annual General Meeting.



At the WssTP Innovation awards dinner, we shall announce the 2019 new winners and celebrate a new WssTP honorary member. Also, during WIE2019, the publication of the outcome of the WssTP Water-Oriented Living Lab (WOLLS) mapping will see the light. And..., there will be even more exciting surprises, I still, may not unveil yet.

At the beginning of April, WssTP organised a well-attended event of the MEP Water Group under the 8th legislature of the European Parliament focused on the UNESCO report on "Leaving no one behind". After the European elections, the MEP Water Group will continue in a new European Parliament where 60% of the MEPs will be new. It is important to educate them right from the beginning on the value of water for our society and economy! WssTP will, of course, continue to strongly support any MEP activity related to water, and values very specially the dedication and support we receive from those most "water engaged" MEPs such as this month's editorial guest Esther de Lange. Always a pleasure!

This is indeed, the last newsletter before the May elections. There will be time to look back and analyse what WssTP has done over the last five years regarding the water topic, as well as, our achievements. Right now, and in so little space, I prefer to highlight those dossiers for water that will need to be carried forward within the next period:

On the 17th of April 2019, the European Parliament endorsed the provisional agreement reached by the co-legislators on Horizon Europe. The partial agreement was approved with almost 90% of the votes of all the MEP in the plenary. After this vote, the European Commission will start preparing the Strategic Plan, setting-up the Mission Boards and the partnership initiatives so that as of January 2021 the new Horizon Europe programme can be fully operational.

The two dossiers of Water Reuse Regulation and Drinking Water regulation are still ongoing and will have to be finalised by the next EP and Council.

Talking about water and the future, it is also good news that the EIP Water seems to be back and has announced that a next EIP Water Conference will take place on 12 December 2019 in Zaragoza, Spain. You can be sure to find us there!

Do vote and cast your vote responsibly!

Tomas Michel, WssTP President

'We are now at a point where the threats arising out of the water challenges, to our health, ecosystem, global economy & peace, makes the presence of the MEP Water Group even more needed' **by MEP Esther de Lange**



Almost a month ago, UNESCO published its latest World Water Development Report 2019 'Leaving No-one Behind', with the MEP Water Group hosting a public event on this. Sustainable Goal 6 of the 2030 agenda on 'Clean Water and Sanitation for all' is still an unreachable goal for much of the world's population. Water is not just a part of the environmental issues we should care or worry about. Water is linked to everything we know in our society and realising its value means being able to safeguard the right quality and quantity for everybody and the multiple uses of water. Yet, human activities and climate change are not moving in our favour, and thus water scarcity and emerging water pollution will have an impact on the quality and the quantity of water available.

We are now at a point where the threats arising out of the water challenges, to our health, ecosystem, global economy and peace, makes the presence of the MEP Water Group even more needed. Since its start, the MEP Water Group has been a forum that brings water actors together and strives to raise water higher on the European political agenda, with a wide variety of public sessions organised on burning water-related themes, as water reuse, circular economy, urban agenda, climate change etc. The only way to successfully cope with water challenges ahead of us is to involve all stakeholders needed at all levels and the MEP Water Group is here for it.

Within one month from now, the European elections will take place and there has never been so much interest in how Europe will act in the coming years. The MEP Water Group will diligently continue its work during the next legislature, driven from our strong determination to see the water-related challenges addressed and the water topic placed at the heart of the EU agenda.

We have a lot of work to do that is foreseen to cover many different dossiers, as the reform of the water framework directive and its daughters, standards, and the Urban waste water treatment directive.

Questions about this newsletter? Contact us: durk.krol@wsstp.eu
Writing Committee: M.Mirachtsi, D. Krol, T. Michel Mayer

Equally important is to continue to keep an eye on the Horizon Europe and the next EU R&D&I policy, the Common Agricultural policy, as well as the cohesion policy.

With challenges and opportunities, in our near horizon, I look forward to the results of these elections, and I wish that the day after the vote will ignite actions that will become the basis for a sustainable water smart future.

Esther De Lange is Vice-Chair of the European People's Party (EPP) in the European Parliament, Chairwoman of the MEP Water Group, Vice-chair of the Special committee on financial crimes, tax evasion and tax avoidance, and member of the committee on industry, energy and research (ITRE).



European Junior Water Programme kicks off at Water Innovation Europe 2019 Week

From the 10th to the 14th of June and during the Water Innovation Europe 2019 conference, you can meet EJWP young talents for their first Kick-off Week at the WssTP in Brussels. The European Junior Water Programme offers young professionals a unique opportunity to learn essential teamwork and collaboration skills and to build valuable networks at an early stage in their careers.

We are proud to give you a sneak preview of the participating organisations and their young professionals of the first group of the European Junior Water Programme. Ingrid Keupers from De Watergroep and Rosa Esposito from Isle Utilities are sharing with us their insights:



'I am passionate about drinking water ever since I have lived in an area where potable tap water was not readily available (Guatemala). I am currently working as a hydrologist for De Watergroep, in Flanders. I am joining the EJWP as I believe this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to go out of my comfort zone to learn new things and meet new people.'

I strongly believe that within Europe many problems we face with regard to the water system are similar e.g. drought, pollution. Thus, we can learn from each other and see how others tackle problems instead of reinventing hot water.' **Ingrid Keupers, De Watergroep, Belgium**



'Isle Utilities is a globally active innovation consultancy in the water and wastewater sector. Their goal is to bring positive changes by connecting developers, users and other stakeholders early on, to enhance the uptake of innovative technologies and make the way we handle water future-proof. Isle is a matchmaker, facilitator, technology- and market specialist. [Continues]

Since collaboration and knowledge sharing across countries is at the heart of Isle's activities, the participation to EJWP is a natural fit. Isle firmly believes in the importance of a more connected European water sector, inclusive and attractive for young employees and in the creation of a network of European professional in order to achieve a more sustainable and a safer water management system in Europe. I work as a Technology Consultant for Isle Utilities in the Italian team and I really look forward to the start of the programme.' **Rosa Esposito, Isle Utilities, Italy**

Interested in more participating organisations and their young professionals? Meet them all at Water Innovation Europe! Or keep up to date with the new developments [here](#).



Workshop on Cybersecurity in water infrastructure: Registrations Open!

Water infrastructure is vulnerable to cyberattacks, the effects can be devastating. How can infrastructure that exists for decades become digital, more efficient and secure at the same time? What are the technical solutions and the legislative framework for cybersecure water infrastructure?

WssTP and AIOTI in collaboration with CETAQUA, EURECAT, FEUGA and SUEZ organise this workshop to set out a basis to develop structures that will facilitate knowledge sharing, awareness raising and technical collaboration with regard to cybersecurity threats to water infrastructure. CyberSecureWater, which builds on existing networks and focuses on coordination of ongoing activities, aims to kick-off further strategic deliberations and to position cybersecurity as a key topic in any further research and policy related to digitizing water infrastructure. The workshop will host top-level experts from different areas of the water and digital sector and include a thrilling simulation of a cyberattack that aims at understanding what happens and who needs to do what, with whom and when. Registration is mandatory, free of charge, and available along with the event agenda at this [link](#). For more information please contact [Andrea Rubini](#).

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10th Global Leakage Summit 2019 supported by WssTP

The Global Leakage Summit returns for its 10th year in June 2019 to feature the most innovative and successful examples of delivering and maintaining reduced leakage levels across the world. The focus for the 2019 conference will be on using best practice policies and innovative technologies to achieve leakage targets and meet customer demand while facing political and economic challenges and ageing network infrastructure. The Global Leakage Summit 2019 will examine not only the challenges and difficulties faced by the global water industry, but also the wealth of tools and technologies becoming increasingly available to support the drive to reduce water loss. WssTP network can receive a discount of 15% when registering online, by using the code: GLS19WSSTP at the checkout of the [registration](#). *To learn more about the 10th Global Leakage Summit, please click [here](#).*

Welcome 2 New Members



Amigo Climate, Italy

Amigo has been established in 2013, as an Italian SME specialized in providing climate services to large international organizations. Amigo developed an expertise in the co-design of solutions for the evaluation of climate risk, and a direct knowledge of the most advanced innovations in the market of risk management for the agricultural and water management sector. It has worked on the assessment of weather indices for insurances and on the development of a new generation of methods for climate risk management at macro scale. Amigo carries on projects both at a national and an international level, and collaborates with academic institutions. *For more information, please click [here](#).*



Häme University of Applied Sciences (HAMK), Finland

Häme University of Applied Sciences (HAMK) is a multidisciplinary higher education institution situated centrally in the most populated area of southern Finland. HAMK has strong links to business and industry. It offers its Finnish and foreign students authentic learning environments and assignments for the benefit of both the students and enterprises. It carries out customer-oriented applied research and development projects. Its four research units support business and industry within the region. *For more information, please click [here](#).*

Join WssTP!



Do you want to collaborate with a pan-European network and beyond? Impact the EU RTD&I strategy? Promote innovative and progressive innovations in the water sector? With more than 200 members, WssTP is the voice of the water-related innovation in Europe. Join us and become a WssTP member by filling in this [form](#)! Services to members are at the heart of the WssTP strategy. Our activities are based on 3 key programmes:

- The **WssTP Collaboration Programme**: Network, exchange knowledge and experiences, and collaborate along the water value chain through our Working Groups and Water Knowledge Europe.
- The **WssTP Market Programme**: Bring your research results and innovative solutions to the market in Europe and beyond through WssTP Water Market Europe programme.
- The **WssTP Advocacy Programme**: Play your part in raising awareness of the value of water for our society and economy through our Water Innovation Europe.

For more information, please contact [Loic Charpentier](#).

AGENDA

7-8 May 2019

22nd European Forum on Eco-Innovation: Closing the Loop

8-10 May 2019

River Basin Management 2019

28 May 2019

4th European Climate Change Adaptation Conference

5-6 June 2019

BlueTech Forum 2019

12-13 June 2019

WssTP Water Innovation Europe 2019

20 June 2019

Water and Wastewater Networks: Delivering Cost-Effective Resilience

26-28 June 2019

Resilient Cities 2019

30-31 October 2019

WssTP Water Knowledge Europe 2019

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On LinkedIn: [The WssTP Group](#)