



Project 518066

## **AFRICAN WATER**

Supporting African involvement in the EU Framework Programme

Instrument: Specific Support Action

Thematic priority: Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area

### **D5.2.3**

#### **Report on raising public participation and awareness**

### **D5.2.4**

#### **Project Powerpoint Presentation**

Due date of deliverable: 31/12/2007

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Start date of project: 01/07/2005

Duration: 30 months

Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK

<b>Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)</b>		
<b>Dissemination Level</b>		
<b>PU</b>	Public	X
<b>PP</b>	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
<b>RE</b>	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
<b>CO</b>	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

Revision version 4



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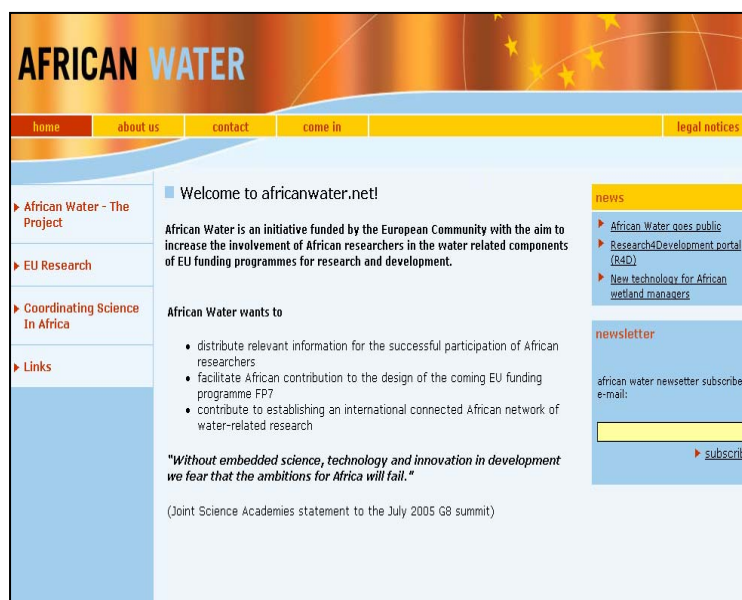


## 1. Information, training and communication tools

Raising public participation and awareness through information, training and communication tools has been the responsibility of WP1. Activities have included the development of the African Water website and of publicity material about the project.

The African Water website [www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net) (D1.2.1) was launched in June 2006, and reported in several news items by other relevant networking projects e.g. [www.scidev.net](http://www.scidev.net) whose weekly news email bulletin is sent to approximately 23,500 subscribers. The African Water website includes information about the project objectives and activities, including contact points, a summary of the system for EU funding of research, and links to initiatives with relevance to the aim of enhanced coordination of the African water research community. A French version of the website was launched in September 2006.

**Figure 1.1 Home page of the African Water website [www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net) at launch in June 2006.**



Appendix 1 shows the African Water brochure (D1.1.3), available in English, French and Portuguese, and Appendix 2 shows the project poster. All these items can be downloaded from the African Water website. Exhibition display material, available in English and French, is also available.

The African Water website also enables users to subscribe to the African Water Newsletter and to download past editions. Six African Water Newsletters have been issued, the first coinciding with the launch of the project website in June 2006, and the last with the end of the project in December 2007. The newsletters are included in Appendix 3.

From the beginning of the African Water project, a linkage or partial integration with the Communication and Information System (CIS) of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) [www.euwi.net](http://www.euwi.net) was envisaged. This would provide long-term sustainability for the African Water initiative and website, and a practicable and effective mechanism for providing future support to African water researchers. This integration has been delayed as the EC has not yet taken over responsibility for the EUWI website, but it remains a feasible solution. Another initiative African Water subscribers have been made aware of is the SPLASH EUWI ERA-net, which, from the outset, is focusing efforts in Africa and in the Mekong Basin.

## 2. Working through existing networks

In WP2, the African Water consortium utilised its available knowledge of, and contacts with, the African water sector and the EU and Member State research programmes as a starting point to promote the project and its objectives, and to encourage cooperation and collaboration between the EU and African institutes, and between different African institutes.

African Water has been publicised at a range of different conferences and meetings in order to inform key stakeholders about the project, including EUWI participants, EU and African research organisations, water utilities, ministries and researchers (D3.3.1). The dissemination report (D5.2.2) provides a comprehensive list. At an international level, these include the World Water Forum and the annual Stockholm World Water Week. At a local and regional level, WRC has been particularly active, targeting scientists visiting WRC, as well as publicising the project at various South African and pan-African events.

Other activities have included collation and extension of lists of contact points across the EU and Africa to contribute to the database of African water researchers. This includes contacts ranging from senior research policymakers within the NEPAD process, senior ministry personnel and researchers with previous EC FP experience. The database of African water researchers (D2.1.1) currently contains of two lists of email addresses, one composed of addresses provided by African Water partners from their networks of contacts, and an expanding one composed of people who have been in contact via the project website and/or subscribed to the African Water Newsletter. The database contacts have been informed about the end of the African Water project, and pointed towards the website of the SPLASH EUWI ERA-net.

The report on complementary initiatives (D2.2.1) identifies ongoing activities, electronic discussion lists and information channels relevant to African Water researchers. The African Water website has included the links to many of these initiatives since the start of the project, to help identify programmes and projects with relevance for enhanced coordination of the African water research community. The list of complementary initiatives has been forwarded to the SPLASH ERA-net.

The UKRO European RTD Insight newsletter has been distributed to subscribing African researchers, though the way the figures are collated makes it difficult to assess how many African subscribers there are (D2.4.1). Furthermore, bespoke subscription agreements for UKRO Information Services have been made available for one year to the University of Pretoria in South Africa and Kenyatta University in Kenya. These two African research organisations were identified during the African Water training workshops as having exceptional potential for making optimum use of the information within their organisation, and for disseminating general information about the funding opportunities presented by the EU FP more widely. Both these organisations have strong interests in FP collaboration, and were judged the most likely to have a strong catalytic effect in encouraging greater interest in FP participation among other organisations in their respective regions. Both organisations also have strong political connections with their respective governments and are most likely to lobby for greater support from their respective national science and technology ministries for national support schemes.

Three representatives from African water research organisations were sponsored by African Water to attend the 2007 UKRO Annual Conference in London, UK to increase African awareness of Brussels institutions, meet key EC staff and increase knowledge about framework processes (D2.4.2). The delegates were: Dr Semu Moges from Arba Minch University, Ethiopia; Dr Manta Nowbuth from the University of Mauritius, Mauritius; and Mr Piet van der CEH/WRC/WEDC/HYDROPHIL/UKRO

Westhuizen from the University of Pretoria Research Office, South Africa. The representatives were chosen from fourteen applications, based primarily on their reasons for wanting to attend the conference and their plans for disseminating the information gained both within and outside their organisation.

### 3. African outreach

WP3 had two principal activities: to undertake a range of training activities in Africa which enabled face-to-face meetings with African water researchers; and to obtain from African researchers their priorities for water research to improve delivery of the MDGs in Africa.

The information gathering activities in this WP have included dialogue meetings with public and private researchers to discuss the Framework Programme (D3.1.1 and D3.3.2), as well as delivery of a list of African water research priorities to the EC Project Officer (D3.1.2). The report on the dialogue meetings and African water research priorities has benefited from the strong synergies between African Water and the African Ministerial Conferences on Science and Technology (AMCOST) and on Water (AMCOW), as well as with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Union (AU), facilitated by the project partner, the WRC.

The African Science and Technology Consolidated Action Plan sets continental priorities and policies for the development and application of science and technology for Africa's socio-economic transformation. Water scarcity and related insecurity have been identified as one of the sources of the continent's under-development and increasing economic decline and, therefore, issues associated with the development, supply and management of water are high on the agenda. The programme on developing capacity in water resources focuses on water quality, sanitation and water resources management. Emphasis is on promoting increased use and production of scientific knowledge and technological innovations. Its goals are to:

- Improve the conservation and utilisation of the continent's water resources
- Improve the quality and quantity of water available to rural and urban households
- Strengthen national and regional capacities for water resource management and reduce impacts of water-related disasters
- Enlarge the range of technologies for water supply and improve access to affordable quality water.

These water research priorities have been passed to the African Water EU Project Officer and to the SPLASH ERA-net.

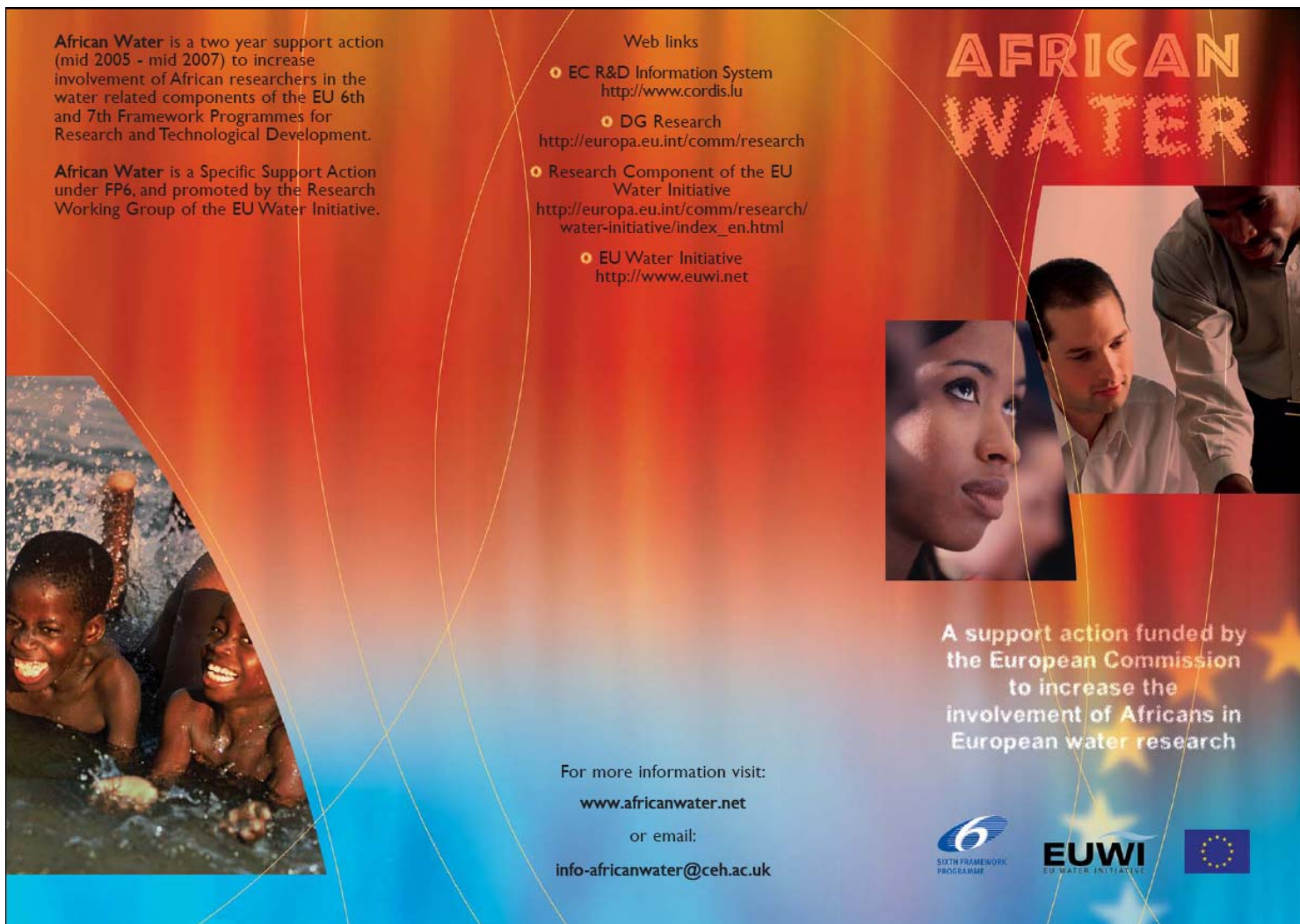
The information providing activities were focused on three regional training workshops, (D3.2.1) through which the participants received various levels of training and/or information about FP7. The workshops were held in South Africa (Southern Africa, 31 attendees) in early 2007, after the work programmes and participation rules for FP7 had been finalised and the first call for proposals had been made, and in Senegal (West Africa, 16 attendees) and in Kenya (East Africa, 19 attendees) in late 2007, before the second call. The Senegal workshop was held directly after the *Third Annual Conference of the African Science Academy Development Initiative* which focused on water and health, and English-French translation was provided. The Kenya workshop was held in partnership with *United Nations Environment Programme* (UNEP). Topics covered in the workshops included: The EU, FP7 and water-related research opportunities, proposal preparation and consortium building, contracts and finance, support for African researchers, and other opportunities for funding. Overall, there was a lot of interest from the participants, and some useful discussion with many pertinent questions. The workshops also provided an opportunity for the participants to network amongst themselves, and slots for one-to-one discussions with the trainers. Presentations from all the workshops are available for download from the African Water website (D1.1.1 and D1.1.2).



## **4. Project Powerpoint Presentation**

Many presentations relating to the African Water project have been made over the duration of the project, both as part of regional and international dissemination activities at conferences and meetings, and as part of regional training activities including other information about FP7. However, since the goal of African Water was not to inform stakeholders about African Water *per se*, but to inform them about the EU Framework Programme (FP7) and other EU funding opportunities, the presentational material about the project is inevitably brief, and was modified several times as the project progressed and to suit the requirements of different audiences. The basic African Water Powerpoint Presentation (D5.2.4) is included in Appendix 4.

## Appendix 1 African Water brochure (also available in French and Portuguese)

The brochure cover features a vibrant orange and red background with abstract white lines. On the left, there is a photograph of two young African children playing in water. On the right, there is a photograph of three people (two men and one woman) looking at a computer screen. The title 'AFRICAN WATER' is written in large, stylized, orange letters at the top right. The text on the left describes the project as a two-year support action from mid-2005 to mid-2007, aimed at increasing African researchers' involvement in EU water-related research. It mentions the EU 6th and 7th Framework Programmes and the EU Water Initiative. A list of web links is provided in the center, including the EC R&D Information System, DG Research, the Research Component of the EU Water Initiative, and the EU Water Initiative website. At the bottom, contact information is given, along with logos for the Sixth Framework Programme, EUWI, and the European Union.

African Water is a two year support action (mid 2005 - mid 2007) to increase involvement of African researchers in the water related components of the EU 6th and 7th Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development.

African Water is a Specific Support Action under FP6, and promoted by the Research Working Group of the EU Water Initiative.

Web links

- EC R&D Information System  
<http://www.cordis.lu>
- DG Research  
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/research>
- Research Component of the EU Water Initiative  
[http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/water-initiative/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/water-initiative/index_en.html)
- EU Water Initiative  
<http://www.euwi.net>

AFRICAN WATER

A support action funded by the European Commission to increase the involvement of Africans in European water research

For more information visit:  
[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)  
or email:  
[info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)

SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME  
EUWI  
EU WATER INITIATIVE



*"Without embedded science, technology and innovation in development we fear that the ambitions for Africa will fail."*

Joint Science Academies statement to the July 2005 G8 Summit

EU Research Programmes include opportunities for:

- Collaborative research
- Research networks
- Coordination and other support activities
- Research fellowships
- Research infrastructure
- Demonstration projects
- Guidance on dissemination, uptake and intellectual property rights

African Water will raise awareness in Africa and Europe of the opportunities for participation in research partnerships.

African Water will provide information:

- A web site with African specific information about participation
- Electronic news bulletins
- Training courses for researchers and research administrators in Africa on how to succeed in EU Research Programmes
- Promoting partnerships between EU and African water research communities

African Water will assist Africans to define and communicate their research priorities into EU Framework Programmes.



## Appendix 2 African Water poster



**AFRICAN WATER**

**A support action funded by the European Commission to increase the involvement of Africans in European water research**

**African Water** will raise awareness in Africa and Europe of the opportunities for participation in research partnerships.

**African Water** will provide information:

- A web site with African specific information about participation
- Electronic news bulletins
- Training courses for researchers and research administrators in Africa on how to succeed in EU Research Programmes
- Promoting partnerships between EU and African water research communities

**African Water** will assist Africans to define and communicate their research priorities into EU Framework Programmes.

For more information visit: [www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)  
or email: [info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)

## **Appendix 3 African Water newsletters**

**Newsletter 1, June 2006**

**Newsletter 2, September 2006**

**Newsletter 3, December 2006**

**Newsletter 4, March 2007**

**Newsletter 5, September 2007**

**Newsletter 6, December 2007**





## NEWSLETTER

Number 1 June 2006

### What is African Water?

African Water is a 2-year (2006-2007) Specific Support Action, funded under EU Framework Programme 6, and promoted by the Research Working Group of the EU Water Initiative, to increase involvement of African researchers in the water-related components of EU Framework Programme 7 (FP7), which will be officially launched in Brussels on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

**Neil Runnalls**, the Project Coordinator, explains that the project is an integral part of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) which was launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002. African Water is one component in the delivery of major EU commitments to strengthen African water research capacity. It will assist Africans to define and communicate their research priorities to the European Commission and into the Framework Programme, and it will raise awareness, in Africa and Europe, of the opportunities for participation in research partnerships through:

- A website with African-specific information about participation in FP7
- Newsletters and electronic news bulletins
- Training courses for water researchers in Africa on how to succeed in FP7
- Promotion of partnerships between EU and African water research communities

The African Water website was launched at the start of June 2006 to provide support to African researchers wishing to participate in FP7. Over the coming months, we will provide the latest information about FP7. We will upload training materials and step-by-step guides on every aspect of participation. The news section will keep you up to date with details of training courses, calls for proposals, etc. To comment on the website, please email [info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk) putting "website" in the subject line.



The African Water Newsletter is available free of charge. It is produced quarterly, with more frequent email bulletins should there be information that needs to be urgently disseminated. To subscribe to the newsletter and email bulletins, register on [www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net). To comment on the newsletter, or unsubscribe, please email the editor at [info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk) putting "newsletter" in the subject line.

The first training course for African water researchers wishing to participate in FP7 will be held in Pretoria in January or February 2007, around the anticipated time of the First Call for proposals. A second training course is planned in East or West Africa in September or October 2007 before the Second Call. We will inform you as more details become available. All training material will be uploaded to the website for those who are unable to attend training courses.

African Water publicity material (including posters and brochures available in downloadable form through the website) has been used to raise awareness at a range of events and meetings. These include the 4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Mexico in March 2006, reported in the article on page 4. Approaches have also been made to a number of similar research capacity building projects, including Integration 4 Water (I4W) which seeks to increase involvement of water researchers in New Member States and Associated Accession Countries in FP7. Wherever possible, opportunities are being developed to secure the long-term continuation of support to African water researchers.

[info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)  
[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)





### Meet the African Water Team

The African Water consortium is headed by the **Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH)** at Wallingford, UK. CEH is involved in several regional research and capacity building projects in Africa, and has links with the UK Department for International Development through the OASIS Resource Centre. The African Water Project Coordinator, **Neil Runnalls**, is a member of the European Water Supply and Sanitation Technology Platform, where he represents the EURAQUA network of European Freshwater Organisations. **Helen Houghton-Carr** manages the project.



Neil Runnalls

The **UK Research Office (UKRO)**, represented by **Amanda Crowfoot**, is the European arm of the UK research community, providing support services for the EC funding process and the Framework Programme.



Eiman Karar



Ian Smout

The **Water Research Commission of South Africa (WRC)** is a parastatal research institute. WRC has links with many regional and continental initiatives within Africa. **Kevin Pieterse** is a member of the African Ministerial Committee on Science and Technology (AMCOST) Water Task Force. **Eiman Karar** is leading African Water project implementation.

The **Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC)** at Loughborough University, UK, represented by **Ian Smout** and **Julie Fisher**, has worked in the water supply and sanitation sectors in Africa for many years. It is also involved in training and dissemination, and has links with the UK Department for International Development through the WELL Resource Centre.



Thomas Zipper

**Hydrophil** works closely with the Austrian Development Agency and has interests in the uptake of hydrology, water supply and sanitation research in development projects. **Thomas Zipper** is the African Water Website Manager.

### FP7 news

The decision-making process for the EU's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) is well underway. A budget of approximately 48 Billion Euros has now been agreed for the 7-year programme which will be officially launched in Brussels on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2007. Although the formal procedure for adopting FP7 is not yet complete, and although many details of its implementation are still to be decided, the basic structure is clear. **Amanda Crowfoot** from UKRO explains that FP7 will be grouped into four blocks, or 'Specific Programmes'. These are:

- **Co-operation** - collaborative research projects, networks, co-ordination and support activities, organised around nine themes. One of these themes is 'Environment', encompassing climate change, sustainable management of resources, conservation, environmental technologies, and earth observation and assessment. Each will cover a range of topics, including many water-related ones.
- **Ideas** - frontier research projects. A new European Research Council (ERC) will provide support to individual teams, promoting excellence through Europe-wide competition in all areas of research.
- **People** - projects to improve human potential, including initial training of researchers, life-long training and career development, industry-academia partnerships, international fellowships, and excellence awards. Like 'Ideas', this is 'bottom up', and open to all research areas.
- **Capacities** - activities to increase research capacity, such as research infrastructures, research for the benefit of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), science in society, and activities of international co-operation.



Amanda Crowfoot

There will be many opportunities for researchers outside of the EU to participate in FP7. For example, each thematic priority will include specific topics aimed at international co-operation, as well as allowing for the participation of non-EU organisations. Also, there will be international fellowships, and return and re-integration grants. The development of a new FP is a lengthy process, in which the European Parliament and the Member States jointly decide and approve the programme and its rules and procedures. This process, together with the European Commission's preparation of all of the necessary supporting documentation, such as work programmes, guides and application forms, is due to be completed by the end of 2006, with FP7 starting at the beginning of 2007. Further information on FP7 can be found at: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/future/index\\_en.cfm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/future/index_en.cfm)



**African FP6 participation**

In this section, we present an example of an existing FP6 water research project involving African partners, to give an impression of the sort of project possible. For this edition, **Ian Smout** from WEDC outlines the **SWITCH** project which aims to improve urban water management.

SWITCH is an acronym for the FP6 Integrating Project called "Sustainable Urban Water Management Improves Tomorrow's City's Health". SWITCH is one of the largest environmental research projects funded under FP6. It aims at the development, application and demonstration of a range of tested scientific, technological and socio-economic solutions and approaches that contribute to the achievement of sustainable and effective urban water management schemes in 'The City of the future' (projection 30-50 years from now). The approach will be to develop efficient and interactive urban water systems and services (city level) in the context of the city's geographical and ecological setting (river basin level), which are robust, flexible and adjustable to a range of global change pressures (global level). A key proposition is that sustainable urban water management is only possible if the urban water cycle is managed in a holistic manner, rather than by a piecemeal approach.



Urban water management problems in Accra (photo Columbia University)



Consortium members at the project kick-off meeting in Delft in April 2006

The African partners in the consortium (**KNUST, IWMI, CEDARE**) are involved in workpackages on:

- Safe water reuse
- Eco-sanitation and decentralised waste water management in an urban context
- Use of urban water (fresh and wastewater) for urban agriculture and other livelihood opportunities
- Maximising the use of natural systems in all aspects of the municipal water cycle
- Governance for integrated urban water management
- Optimising social inclusion
- Dissemination and training

The project has nine demonstration cities, including Accra, Ghana, and Alexandria, Egypt, where Learning Alliances will be established to bring together the major stakeholders who can drive the research and demonstration activities and disseminate their benefits.

A proposal has recently been submitted to the European Commission to extend the project to include Makerere University and the National Water and Sewerage Corporation, both in Uganda, and the University of Cape Town in South Africa. Their research would relate to the existing workpackage in Water Demand Management which is lead by WEDC. **Ian Smout** and **Sam Kayaga** are the WEDC staff involved.



Sam Kayaga

**SWITCH: Project details**

<p><b>Aim:</b> To achieve a sustainable, healthy and safe urban water system, through a paradigm shift in water management</p> <p><b>Duration:</b> 2006-2011 (5 years)</p> <p><b>Coordinator:</b> UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> 32 total, made up of 17 from EU, 12 from developing countries, 3 others. African partners comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kwame Nkrumah University (KNUST), Ghana</li> <li>• International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Ghana</li> <li>• Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), Egypt</li> </ul> <p><b>Budget:</b> 23 Million Euros, of which 14.75 Million Euro is EU contribution</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.switchurbanwater.eu">www.switchurbanwater.eu</a> (from late June 2006)  <a href="http://www.unesco-ihe.org/switch">www.unesco-ihe.org/switch</a> (currently)</p>	
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**African Water at the 4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Mexico**

Neil Runnalls (CEH), Eiman Karar (WRC) and Ian Smout (WEDC) of the African Water team attended the 4th World Water Forum (WWF) in Mexico in March 2006. The WWF provided an excellent opportunity to publicise African Water to the many delegates from Africa and to contact many other donors / stakeholders involved in water research capacity building in Africa.



Working from the European Commission stand, both English and French language African Water publicity brochures were distributed to many hundreds of WWF delegates. Actions at the WWF specifically targeted events with an African focus, explaining the project to delegates and building synergies with other complementary initiatives.

Eiman Karar stressed the need for Africa to adopt solutions that are appropriate for African socio-cultural dimensions, and not necessarily directly imported from the West, and for the West to better understand African dynamics. In particular, she called for a halt to the pressure on African countries to legislate for a plethora of new water management institutions, rather than build upon existing institutions. She said, "An important lesson is that one size does not fit all as far as institutional arrangements are concerned".



Photos: Top right and above: the African Water stand at WWF (photo CEH); bottom right: Eiman Karar (right) and Kevin Pieteresen (left) on the South African Water Sector stand (photo WRC).

**African Water in context**

Participation of the Water Research Commission (WRC) in the African Water team has facilitated strong synergies between African Water and the African Ministerial Conferences on Science and Technology (AMCOST) and on Water (AMCOW). Eiman Karar and Kevin Pieteresen from WRC explain that the research organisation is a leading member of the AMCOST Water Task Force which is made up of representatives of the five sub-regions of Africa. Water scarcity and related insecurity have been identified as one of the sources of the continent's under-development and increasing economic decline and, therefore, issues associated with the development, supply and management of water are high on the agenda. Water is included in Programme Cluster 2 of the Plan of Action which consolidates the science and technology programmes of the African Union (AU) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The Plan of Action has been used to inform the European Commission of African water research priorities during the development of FP7. Specific water topics include:

- Scientific assessment of Africa's water resources and systems, and their improved conservation and utilisation
- Research and technologies to assess and monitor water-related disasters (eg floods)
- Knowledge and technologies to improve water quality and quantity, and access to affordable water
- Promoting exchange of scientific information on the causes and extent of drought and desertification in Africa



Kevin Pieteresen





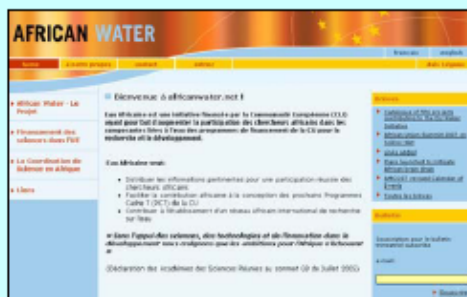
## NEWSLETTER

Number 2 September 2006

Welcome to the second African Water newsletter!

Interest in the African Water project has grown since the website [www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net) and first newsletter were launched in June 2006. As well as an email announcement to over 700 contacts, the launch was accompanied by publicity articles on several websites in order to reach the maximum number of people with an interest in African water research.

Since the launch of the website, news in the field of science cooperation in Africa has continuously been updated, and links to relevant institutions and other projects and initiatives added. The "Coordinating Science" and the "Links" sections therefore provide a good overview about what is going on in this field worldwide. The project team will continue to add new information and, of course, appreciates any suggestions of new links to include. The main changes are in the "EU Research" section where new pages have been added. Our UKRO project partners have provided comprehensive information about the EU research agenda and especially about forthcoming FP7 matters. This section will continue to be updated as more details about FP7 are released. The French version of the website was launched in August 2006 and can be found at [www.africanwater.net/index.php?lang=fr](http://www.africanwater.net/index.php?lang=fr)



Thomas Zipper (Hydrophil) reports that around 400 people, mainly from Europe, but also from several African countries, visit the website homepage each month. Most of them address the site directly but some of them are linked to African Water by search engines. The main search term for this is "african water" which means that the site is actively searched for. Other users are referred to the website from the website of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI). In the three months since the launch, 82 people have subscribed to the newsletter and 37 people have made enquiries about how they can participate in FP7.

This edition brings you the latest news on FP7, including a detailed article about Marie Curie Actions which, amongst other things, enable researchers to spend time working with contemporaries in another European or Third Country. News on indicative topics for the first and second calls of FP7 is also provided, as well as information about current and previous FP6 projects, with a focus this time on a river basin twinning project involving four continents. African Water has been publicised at a range of conferences and meetings in Africa and Europe in order to inform key stakeholders about the project, including the 2006 Stockholm World Water Week. Some progress has been made on a database of African water researchers, though the longer term purpose of this database, and thus the information held, is currently being assessed. We are reluctant to duplicate established services available elsewhere e.g. the CORDIS partner search facility. Progress has also been made in identifying complementary initiatives which have the potential to develop synergies with African Water.

The first training workshop for African water researchers is planned for Southern Africa early in 2007, once the Work Programme and participation rules for FP7 are finalised, and after the first call for proposals may well have been made. Planning has started for the "Africa meets the Commission" event which will coincide with the launch of FP7 in March 2007. This will include a meeting of African water research representatives with EC staff. Details of both of these events will be publicised on the website when available.

[info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)  
[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)



### Update on FP7

**Amanda Crowfoot (UKRO)** reports that much progress has been achieved in recent months in the process of adopting FP7. The European Parliament completed its first reading of the proposal, the European Commission revised its FP7 proposal, and the Competitiveness Council reached a political agreement on FP7. Negotiations will continue, with final approval of FP7 possible in November 2006. Progress on the FP7 Rules of Participation, which sets out legal, financial and management conditions, has been a little slower, but matters are also progressing towards approval in late 2006.

The FP7 budget has now been agreed as follows:

Co-operation:	€ 32, 292 million
Ideas:	€ 7, 460 million
People:	€ 4, 727 million
Capacities:	€ 4, 291 million
Joint Research Centre (JRC):	€ 1, 751 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 50, 521 million</b>

Progress has been made on the European Research Council (ERC), with the publication of the ERC Scientific Council's first strategy document, as well as details of their Starting Independent Researcher Grants and Advanced Investigator Grants. These grants would provide support to researchers of any nationality, but they must take up the grants in Europe. More information on the ERC can be found at: [http://erc.europa.eu/index\\_en.cfm](http://erc.europa.eu/index_en.cfm)

In summary, the emphasis at present is very much about completing the adoption of FP7. Alongside this, the first Work Programmes are being drawn up, and the Commission is working on documents and procedures, keeping in mind the issue of simplification from the view of the participants, at all stages of the project life cycle. It is likely that the first FP7 calls will be published in very late 2006, or early 2007, and that first deadlines will be staggered over the first six months of 2007.

### FP7 indicative work topics

**Neil Runnalls (CEH)** explains that the FP7 Work Programme is developed through an iterative consultative process. The early release of indicative topics provides researchers with the opportunity to prepare for when the formal Call is published. This early preparation is, in fact, essential if researchers are serious about FP7 participation. Through early preparation, a researcher is able to approach other leading experts (and those who have been successful in previous EU research projects), and discuss the optimum objectives, organisation and roles for a successful proposal.



However, it is important to remember that indicative topics are just that - indicative. While the topics for the first Call are now quite firm, there will still be some subtle changes in the text for most areas. The indicative topics for second Call, probably in late 2007-8, are speculative, but still worth initiating some discussion with potential partners. There will be regular postings on the African Water website of the latest versions of the Work Programme for FP7, containing the latest indicative topics.

To give you an indication of successful projects in FP6 (2003-2006), the European Commission has just published a catalogue (left, downloadable from the African Water website) of all projects funded under FP6 which make a contribution to delivery of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) objectives. This is a useful database if you are trying to find partners with experience in participation in EU research projects, and have an interest in water research for international development. Note that any future research will need to build upon, and certainly not duplicate, the work undertaken in these existing projects.

### An introduction to the FP7 Marie Curie Actions

#### Who was Marie Curie?

Marie Curie (1867-1934) was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize, for Physics in 1903. She won it again for Chemistry in 1911. In both instances the awards were in recognition of her pioneering scientific research on radioactive elements, in particular radium.



Marie Curie (photo [www.zephyrus.co.uk](http://www.zephyrus.co.uk))

Marie Curie said that "You cannot hope to build a better world without improving the individuals. To that end, each of us must work for our own improvement and, at the same time, share a general responsibility for all humanity, our particular duty being to aid those to whom we think we can be most useful."

#### What are Marie Curie Actions?

**Amanda Crowfoot** from UKRO explains that, in the spirit of the above quote, the FP Marie Curie Actions support the training and mobility of researchers in the context of world-class research. Since FP6, the Marie Curie Actions have been open to non-EU nationals, under certain conditions.

The Marie Curie Actions provide opportunities for **individual researchers** and **research groups**:

For **individual researchers** seeking the next step in their career, opportunities include:

- Fellowships of up to two years in a European or Third Country host institution in order to diversify their research skills. These are for researchers with at least four years research experience. EU nationals can move within Europe [trans-national Intra-European Fellowship], or spend a couple of years in a third country [Outgoing International Fellowship];
- Fellowships of up to two years in a European host institution for Third Country researchers, with a potential re-integration phase in their country of origin [Incoming International Fellowship];
- Short to long-term fellowships and studentships offered as part of the Marie Curie Networks in Europe and possibly Third Countries; and
- Attending short courses and workshops organised by Marie Curie Networks, and Industry-Academic Partnerships and Pathways.

For **research groups** seeking to support the career development of their own staff, or to build on or establish cooperation with other groups in Europe and across the world, opportunities include:

- Hosting or seconding individual fellows with at least four years research experience within Europe or Third Countries [trans-national Intra-European Fellowships /Incoming International or Outgoing International Fellowships];
- Participating in a Marie Curie Network in order to offer research training to early stage researchers, in the form of short to long-term fellowships and studentships;
- Promoting short-medium term fellowships opportunities under the Marie Curie Networks; and
- Participating in partnerships between several European organisations and organisations in countries with EU Science & Technology agreements, in order to offer short-term secondments.

#### What do the Marie Curie Actions fund?

It is likely that as in FP6, the Commission contribution for a Marie Curie Action will cover benefits for the fellow (that is, 100% salary costs and a contribution to research costs) and benefits for the host (contribution to networking and management costs).



Amanda Crowfoot

#### When can I apply for the Marie Curie Actions?

The details provided above are based on the Commission's 'People' Specific Programmes, which are likely to be adopted in Autumn 2006, with first calls possibly in December 2006 but more likely to be early 2007. Potential applicants will need to read the Work Programme and relevant application documentation in order to prepare their applications. These should be available at the time of the calls as they can not be finalised until FP7 has been adopted.

For further information: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/people.htm>



### Networking with African water researchers

**Kevin Pieterzen** (WRC) reports that, as part of the global InterAcademy Panel (IAP) Global Water Programme, the WRC, on behalf of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), organised a 3-day workshop in August 2006. The objective of the workshop was to bring together water scientists and high-level water managers from various countries in Africa to discuss major problems faced presently by them and to find possible solutions to these problems. The symposium was attended by representatives from Cameroon, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa Tanzania, Uganda and Tanzania.



*Participants at the IAP workshop*

Topics specific to an African context included water resource management issues and research needs, building African Networks of Centres of Excellence in water sciences and technologies, capacity building and mechanisms for financial support for water research. The workshop outcome was the determination of water priority issues and modalities for effective collaboration between African water researchers. African Water was also introduced to the symposium participants.

The World Water Week in Stockholm (page 6) provided an opportunity for discussions between **Neil Runnalls** (CEH), coordinator of African Water, and ANEW. ANEW is a recently formed network that brings together many of the African Civil Society Organisations (CSO) that have an involvement in water and sanitation. Mechanisms for improved dialogue have subsequently been outlined, including:

- Communicating African CSO requirements for research and knowledge into both the European Commission and Member State research programmes.
- Informing CSOs of opportunities to participate in EC funded research / dissemination projects, and
- ANEW assisting in the dissemination of latest knowledge based good practice.

Information about ANEW is available at: [http://www.freshwateraction.net/web/w/www\\_14\\_en.aspx](http://www.freshwateraction.net/web/w/www_14_en.aspx)

### Complementary initiatives: Integration4Water (I4W)

The Integration4Water action is a "sister" project to African Water. I4W is seeking to increase the involvement of researchers from the New Member States (Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia) and Accession States (Bulgaria, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Turkey) of the European Union. Researchers from Africa may be interested in using the databases that the I4W has compiled on water research expertise across these countries. This database specifically targets researchers with an interest in participating in FP7 projects. See: <http://www.integration4water.org/>

### UKRO European RTD Insight Newsletter

*European RTD Insight* is a monthly publication produced by the UK Research Office (UKRO) on behalf of the British Council. *Insight* is available without charge, and provides a succinct and accessible overview of developments in European and international research programmes and policy. As well as research, it includes information on education, training and culture, external collaboration, events and awards, new publications and on-line resources, and also a glossary of EU acronyms and terms.

*Insight* is currently emailed directly to over 700 scientists, research administrators, EU officials, and policy makers the world over. Feedback is very much welcomed so that the publication can constantly meet the requirements of its readers. Those wishing to receive *Insight* by email each month should send an email to [ukro@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:ukro@bbsrc.ac.uk), stating 'European RTD Insight' in the subject line. It is also made available in Word and pdf formats on the UKRO website at the start of each month: this can be accessed from <http://www.ukro.ac.uk/insight/index.htm>. Previous editions of *Insight* are also available on the website. Comments and suggestions can also be emailed to UKRO at the email address given above.

### African FP6 participation

In this section, we present an example of an existing FP6 water research project involving African partners, to give an impression of the sort of project possible. For this edition, **Frank Farquharson** from CEH outlines the TWINBAS river basin twinning project.

TWINBAS is an FP6 strategic research project which aims to use the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) as a framework for developing and implementing aspects of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in five twinned river basins: in Europe (Thames, UK and Norrstrom, Sweden), in Africa (Okavango in Angola, Namibia and Botswana), in Asia (Nura, Kazakhstan), and in South America (BioBio, Chile). The river basins selected represent a wide variety of water use problems and a variety of political and societal systems. Work packages on hydrology, public participation, modelling, water quality and pollution, water body classification, scenario analysis, impact assessment and socio-economics contribute to the development of preliminary river basin management plans basins addressing the priorities identified in each basin. *Frank Farquharson*

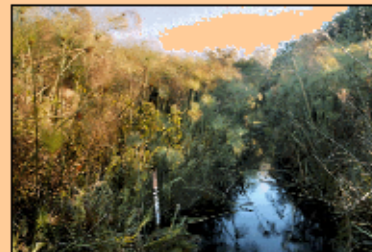


Okavango Delta (photo [www.twinbas.org](http://www.twinbas.org))

The Okavango River in Southern Africa is famous for its terminal delta in Botswana which forms one of the largest and most prestigious wetlands in the world, a RAMSAR site since 1997. The delta is under increasing threat from climate change and from surface water and groundwater resource development, both in the delta and in the upstream basin.

The hydrologically active part of the basin is approximately 400,000 km<sup>2</sup>, the majority in Angola where the long-running civil war has recently finished. Numerous constraints to the development of a basin management plan that can be agreed by all have been identified, including lack of capacity to implement a strategy, lack of mutual understanding among stakeholders, and unclear definition of the roles and functions of newly established institutions.

TWINBAS project partners DHI Water and Environment, CEH and Rhodes University and have been working closely with the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM) and stakeholders in the basin. To increase understanding of the hydrology of the delta and the impacts on the delta of changes in climate and of developments such as population growth and dams in the upper reaches in Angola, various climate change and land-use change scenarios in the upper basin have been fed into Rhodes University's Pitman rainfall-runoff model and CEH's GWAVA Global Water Availability Assessment model to produce flow series which can be fed into the MIKE-SHE/11 integrated hydrologic model of the delta itself.



Water level monitoring in the delta (photo [www.twinbas.org](http://www.twinbas.org))

#### TWINBAS: Project details

Aims:	To enable implementation of a harmonised IWRM approach that addresses the EUWI in five river basins. To assess vulnerability to climate change and anthropogenic development and produce integrated river basin management plans that include optimal combinations of actions.
Duration:	2003-2006 (3 years)
Coordinator:	IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute
Partners:	8 total, made up of 4 from EU, 1 from Africa, 1 from Asia and 2 from South America. The African partner is the Institute for Water Research at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa.
Budget:	2.2 Million Euros, of which 1.4 Million Euro is EU contribution
Website:	<a href="http://www.twinbas.org">www.twinbas.org</a>



### UK Research Office (UKRO) Annual Conference, July 2006 Newcastle UK

UKRO is the European arm of the UK research community, providing support services for the EC funding process. UKRO Director **Amanda Crowfoot** explains that the annual conference is targeted primarily at European research and liaison officers from universities and research institutes; in other words, those responsible for promoting and supporting their institution's European activity. However, it also attracts participants from Research Councils, Government Departments, European liaison offices in Brussels, and a growing number of industrial companies with an interest in European research funding. **Neil Runnalls** and **Helen Houghton-Carr** (both CEH) attended to promote African Water and inform UK research administrators of this new mechanism by which their water researchers can make contact with potential African research partners. The 2-day conference aims to provide an excellent forum for disseminating information concerning EU funding to information multipliers, so that this can reach the broadest spectrum of the research community.



*Antonia Mochan, EC spokesperson for Science and Research outlining the latest developments in FP7*

This year, the conference attracted approximately 200 delegates, including many from outside of the UK, and focused almost exclusively on FP7. Participants heard about the developing programme direct from European Commission speakers. As well as sessions on the various thematic areas of FP7, there was coverage of the overall FP7 policy and decision making process, the Marie Curie programme, and participation issues. In addition, the Chair of the European Research Council (ERC) Scientific Council, Professor Fotis Kafatos, spoke about the ERC's strategy, and plans for the early stages of FP7. The African Water team were able to interrogate Commission staff about issues of particular interest and lobby for the inclusion of Africa-specific actions within the FP7 Work Programme.



Feedback from the conference was extremely positive, with many participants particularly appreciating the range of speakers, and the networking opportunities presented at the event. Copies of presentations from the event can be found at: [http://www.ukro.ac.uk/annual\\_conference/index.htm](http://www.ukro.ac.uk/annual_conference/index.htm).

European liaison officers in African research organisations should consider attending the 2007 conference, details of which will be announced later this year.

*Neil Runnalls in discussion with a conference delegate*

### African Water at World Water Week in Stockholm

Large posters publicising the African Water project were prominently displayed at all of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) meetings held during the World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden in August 2006. A large number of brochures were also distributed to delegates. The audiences at the EUWI meetings were typically high level national representatives from EU Member States, developing countries, NGO's and the European Commission. **Neil Runnalls** (CEH), **Eiman Karar** (WRC) and **Thomas Zipper** (Hydrophil) were in Stockholm during the event.

The publicity created considerable interest and helped raise the profile of African Water at the political level, and provide impetus for establishing longer term support to African water researchers beyond the life of the initiative. This includes actions to improve communication and coordination with AMCOW and the recently formed ANEW network of African water NGOs (page 4).

In addition to progress at the political level, it was possible to have animated discussions on specific research challenges with individual African water researchers. In most cases it was possible to show how these issues mapped on to the European Research programmes, and to point individuals to the growing number of resources becoming available through the African Water website.



*Neil Runnalls*





## NEWSLETTER

Number 3 December 2006

This quarter's African Water newsletter takes the form of an email bulletin including:

- \* website update
- \* the latest news on FP7;
- \* the details of the first African Water training workshop;
- \* an announcement about the 2007 UKRO conference;
- \* African water dissemination.

### Website update

[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net), the virtual home of African Water, is continuously updated with information relevant for science cooperation in Africa. New items are presented on the entry pages of the various sub-sites and they are also collected on the home page to give you an overview right from the beginning. New entries in the Links sections, which are growing constantly, are also notified in the News section of the homepage. Since we are trying to give a comprehensive overview about what is going on in our thematic field, we definitely appreciate contributions from our visitors! The web statistics show that on an average 18 visitors per day use the information presented on africanwater.net. They come from numerous European countries and several African states.

The following information has been added to the website in last weeks:

#### \* Indicative Topics for FP7

There will be regular postings on the web site of the latest versions of the workprogramme for FP7, containing the latest indicative topics to be called - see the website for the latest versions of the workprogrammes for Environment and People (including Marie Curie). The FP is developed through an iterative consultative process. The early release of indicative topics provides researchers with the opportunity to prepare for when the formal Call is published. All topics are open to developing country partners, but pay particular attention to topics marked as Specific International Cooperation Actions which require at least two developing country partners in the consortium.

#### \* Statistics on 2006 Marie Curie Actions

UKRO has obtained statistics on the 2006 deadlines for Intra-European Fellowships, Incoming International Fellowships, Outgoing International Fellowships, Series of Events, European Reintegration Grants and International Reintegration Grants. The main facts are presented.

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www.africanwater.net



**FP7 news**

The European Parliament completed its role in the FP7 decision-making process by taking its final vote on the FP7 high-level text and the Rules of Participation at the end of November, paving the way for formal approval of the programme in December. The Commission is working towards publishing notification of the first Calls for proposals on 22 December 2006. Final versions of Work Programmes and Guides for Applicants should also be available at this stage.

Notification of the first Calls under the Environment theme, which will be of most interest to those in water research-related areas, is also likely to be on 22 December. It is understood that there will be one call per year, with the first call Environment deadline currently looking likely to be in early May, although this can only be confirmed on publication of the call.

In addition to the negotiations on the legal texts, the Commission has been working on the administrative aspects that support delivery and promotion of the Framework Programme. The database for registration of FP7 experts is now live and ready for new registrations and updates of profiles for those registered under FP6. The Commission expects to launch the call for FP7 experts imminently, and to request those on the FP6 database to update their record for FP7 purposes. The Commission

has also recently published a set of fact sheets designed to explain FP7 to the non-expert. It provides an introduction to the FP, with an overview of the various elements and general budget breakdown.

For further information:

FP7 Expert Database: <https://cordis.europa.eu/emmfp7>

FP7 Fact sheets: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/understanding/index.html>

**African Water training workshop**

This training workshop from January 31st to February 2nd 2007 will take place at Rietondale Lodge, Pretoria, South Africa, and will provide interested researchers involved in the water research and related areas, as well as research administrators and trainers, with all of the necessary information to participate in the Seventh Framework Programme. It will include sessions on introducing the EU and FP7, water research opportunities within the programme, how to get involved in a project, and how to prepare a proposal, contractual and financial issues, and developing a strategy for participation. Many of the sessions will be interactive, with some group exercises and plenty of time for discussion.

The workshop will primarily be delivered by the UK Research Office (UKRO). UKRO, based in Brussels, has over 20 years of experience in delivering such training, and in helping research organisations to successfully engage in EU-funded activities. In addition to the group training sessions there will be an opportunity to speak to the UKRO trainer on a one-to-one basis, in order to discuss your personal strategy to participation. The event will also include sessions delivered by the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology and the Water Research Commission in South Africa, as well as some African participants in previous Framework Programmes, who will share their experiences. For more information about the workshop please see the website or contact Dr Kevin Pietersen at [kevinp@wrc.org.za](mailto:kevinp@wrc.org.za)

To book a place at the workshop please contact Mrs Zagry Scholtz at [zagrys@wrc.org.za](mailto:zagrys@wrc.org.za)

#### 2007 UKRO conference

Each year the UK Research Office organises a two-day Annual Conference for European Liaison Officers. The Conference provides an excellent forum for discussion and networking with key speakers from the European Institutions and UK Government departments on a wide range of EU policies and funding opportunities. The 2007 conference will be held at Imperial College, London on 5th and 6th July 2007. African Water will sponsor two representatives from African research organisations to attend the 2007 conference. Note that the representatives should not be researchers, but should be European Liaison Officers, or Fundraising or Policy Support personnel. Details of how to apply will be released in the New Year.

#### African Water dissemination

There are around 120 subscriptions to the newsletter, the second edition of which was distributed to an additional 2500 African recipients via the WEDC mailing list. A Portuguese version of the African Water publicity brochure is being produced and will be available early in 2007 - many thanks to Aguas de Portugal ([www.adp.pt](http://www.adp.pt)) for doing the translation.

Advantage has been taken of African Water partner's attendance at several recent global events in the sector, to further promote the aims of the project to targeted groups of delegates, who might like to take advantage of the opportunities offered.

These have included:

- First International Conference on Sustainable Irrigation Management, Technologies and Policies held in Bologna in September, organised by the Wessex Institute of Technology;
- Symposium on Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation: Strengthening Capacity for Local Governance, which was also held in September, in Delft, the Netherlands, hosted by IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre and UNESCO-IHE, Institute for Water Education;
- 32nd WEDC Conference on Sustainable Development of Water Resources, Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in November.
- Workshop on Bridging Research, Technology and Development: Sustainable Water Resource Management in Eastern Africa, held in Mombasa, Kenya in December, organised by the Egerton University, African Water Facility, the East Africa Water Association, and the Austrian Academy of Sciences.





## NEWSLETTER

Number 4 March 2007

This quarter's African Water newsletter again takes the form of an email bulletin including:

- website update
- the latest news on FP7;
- an announcement about the 2007 UKRO conference – you could get funding to attend!
- a report of the first African Water training workshop;
- networking with African scientists;
- a summary of the 7th WATERNET/WARFSA/GWP-SA symposium.

### Website update

[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net), the virtual home of African Water, is continuously updated with information relevant for science cooperation in Africa. New items are presented on the entry pages of the various sub-sites and the most relevant ones are also collected on the home page to give you an overview right from the beginning. In the News section of the homepage, we also inform viewers about new entries in the Links sections, which are growing constantly.

The web statistics show an average of 21 visitors per day, which means a slight increase in the last quarter. They have been referred to African Water mostly through Google using search terms like African Water, Water Projects, Funding Water Africa, etc. Around 150 people have subscribed to the AW newsletter.

The following information has recently been added to the website:

**Final Topics for FP7** - For the work programme of FP7, the documents containing the final topics for the "People" and the "Environment" programme have been published and are also prepared for downloading (<http://www.africanwater.net/index.php?id=15>)

The deadline for submission of Environment proposals under the first call is 2nd May 2007.

**Portuguese information** - Since African Water addresses all of Africa, some information in Portuguese has been added to the website:

- information about FP7 topics (<http://www.africanwater.net/index.php?id=15>)
- the African Water project leaflet (<http://www.africanwater.net/index.php?id=7>)

**New links** - Several new links to research projects dealing with water in Africa have been added, the last one pointing to the *Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI)*.

### FP7 news

FP7 is now fully underway. The first FP7 calls for proposal were announced on 22nd December 2006 – a total of 42 calls spread across all the different parts of the programme.

Note that deadlines vary across different themes. The **Environment (including Climate Change)** theme has a deadline of 2nd May 2007. Researchers interested in areas related to water research should note, however, that other themes (for example Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Technology, Information and Communication Technologies, Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies, and Space) many also include relevant topics.

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www.africanwater.net



AFRICAN WATER Newsletter No. 4

March 2007

Work programmes set out the precise topics included in each theme. Every theme includes some SICA projects. SICA (Specific International Co-operation Actions) are projects targeted towards specific regions (for example, Africa); they allow organisations from countries in the appropriate region to collaborate with European organisations on specific topics.

In addition, African partners can also join with European partners in projects on any of the other topics in the work programme, as long as participation is in addition to the European partners and necessary to the project itself.

The Marie Curie programme, which focuses on research careers, training and fellowships also has a number of actions in which international participation is welcomed. Of particular interest may be Incoming and Outgoing International Fellowships. These are individual post-doctoral fellowships of 12 - 24 months, allowing researchers from outside Europe to undertake a fellowship within Europe (Incoming) or one from Europe to undertake a fellowship outside of Europe (Outgoing). Deadlines for both schemes are 14th August 2007. Other Marie Curie deadlines vary; all schemes are open to any area of research.

All FP7 applications are made electronically, using the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS). The EPSS system has been developed and tested over recent months. It is now ready to be launched for most areas. Those wanting to submit a proposal as the coordinator must register for the system and get a password. (Note that if you are a project partner, however, your coordinator will do this). Registration is through the CORDIS website (see below); go to the page for the theme/programme you are applying for, for the correct EPSS link.

The new European Research Council (ERC) had a launch conference in Berlin. The ERC's first call (deadline 25th April 2007) is for Starting Independent Research Grants. Open to all 'frontier' areas of science, technology, social science and humanities, these allow researchers to establish or extend their first research team. The researcher can be from anywhere in the world, as long as they are based in Europe for the project, and their team can include partners from any country.

Guides for Applicants are available for each area, and each different type of project. These are essential reading for anyone involved in submitting a proposal.

The Model Grant Agreement, covering contractual and financial conditions) is due to be finalised by the end of the March 2007. Detailed Financial Guidelines, with examples, should follow shortly afterwards.

For further information:

CORDIS FP7 page, with links to documents and submission mechanisms for each theme:

[http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)

CORDIS partner search facility:

[http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/partners\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/partners_en.html)

Registration to be an expert evaluator:

<https://cordis.europa.eu/emmf7/>



Beyond the practicalities of FP7, the European Commission's Research Directorate General is due to publish next month a 'Green Paper' on the European Research Area (ERA). This paper, entitled 'The European Research Area: New Perspectives' will assess the current situation in terms of meeting the objectives for the ERA originally set out in a Communication in 2000, and will look at what the next steps might be in the achievement of the ERA. It is expected that the paper will have a significant focus on the international dimension in research, recognising the impact of increased globalisation of research on the ERA.

#### 2007 UKRO conference – you could get funding to attend!

Each year the UK Research Office organises a two-day Annual Conference aimed primarily at European Research Liaison Officers. This year, the conference will be held at Imperial College, London, UK on 5th and 6th July 2007. The conference will have a strong focus on FP7.

African Water will sponsor two representatives from African research organisations to attend the 2007 conference. African Water will cover travel and subsistence costs (economy airfares and train travel, and UK government subsistence rates), plus registration fees for the conference.

Nominated representatives should not be researchers, but should be European Research Liaison Officers, Research Managers or Administrators, Fundraising or Policy Support personnel. The Conference provides an excellent forum for discussion and networking with key speakers from the European Institutions on a wide range of EU policies and funding opportunities.

The application form will be added to the website soon. To apply please download and complete the application form and submit by email to African Water ([info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)). The closing date for applications is 30th April 2007. The two successful applicants will be informed by 11th May 2007 and asked to confirm in writing that they will attend.

For more information, there is an article about the 2006 conference in African Water Newsletter 2 (September 2006). Copies of presentations from that and previous conferences can be found at: [http://www.ukro.ac.uk/annual\\_conference/index.htm](http://www.ukro.ac.uk/annual_conference/index.htm).

Please note that failing to secure sponsorship from African Water does not preclude you from attending the conference with your own funding. Details of the conference programme and registration facility will be added to the African Water website as soon as they are available.

#### First African Water training workshop

The first training workshop took place in Pretoria, South Africa from 31st January to 2nd February 2007. The purpose of the workshop was to provide interested researchers involved in the water research and related areas, as well as research administrators and trainers, with all of the necessary information to participate in FP7. 32 delegates attended, drawn mostly from South Africa, with representatives also attending from Malawi, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

The workshop content was primarily delivered by Amanda Crowfoot from the UK Research Office (UKRO) based in Brussels and Neil Runnalls from the UK Centre of Ecology and Hydrology (CEH). The following topics were addressed:

- Introduction to the European Union institutions
- Introduction to the EU's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) for research and technological development
- Water-related research opportunities in FP7
- Proposal preparation, including: consortium building, proposal writing; and proposal submission
- Discussion of African experiences of participating in the Framework Programme
- Marie Curie Programme
- Opportunities beyond the Framework Programme
- Discussion on institutional strategies for participation

In addition to the above, presentations were given by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) of South Africa together with associated institutions that are implementing instruments to support South African researchers to access the FP7 programme. This part of the programme mostly addressed the needs of the South African research community. The presentations focused on:

- ESASTAP: Opportunities for South Africa's participation in FP by Mmboneni Muofhe
- ST-EAP: Europe Africa partnership in S&T by Takalani Nemaungani
- National Contact Point (NCP) Support for SA participants in FP by Renee le Roux

The presentations were well received and the discussions were considered informative by the participants. There was lots of interest from participants, and some active discussion, with lots of good questions. There was some very positive feedback informally, and participants certainly seemed to welcome the fact that this had been organised. The workshop also provided an opportunity for the delegates to network amongst themselves.

Presentations from the workshop will be available to download from the African Water website.

Further regional training workshops are planned later in the year in East Africa and West Africa.

#### Networking with African scientists

Water sciences and technologies constitute one of the main flagship programmes of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). An African Task Team on Water Sciences and Technology Development, of which the Water Research Commission of South Africa (WRC) is a partner, was constituted to support implementation of this initiative. The first meeting was held in Pretoria, South Africa and the second meeting of the task team was held in Cairo, Egypt. The task team as constituted consisted of representatives from Algeria, Burkina-Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, France, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda. During the task team meeting in Cairo held on 19th November 2006, the programme of African Water was introduced and incorporated as part of the business planning processes.

The governance and financing mechanism proposals to support the implementation of the water sciences initiative was submitted to an inter-ministerial dialogue arranged in Cairo, Egypt on 22nd November 2006. The dialogue was attended by science and technology and water ministers from Lesotho, Senegal, South Africa and Zimbabwe, senior representatives from Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, and South Africa, and representatives from the Office of Science and Technology of NEPAD and the African Union (AU) Commission. Throughout the day, delegates discussed issues related to criteria and guidelines, financial mechanisms and governance for the network of centres of excellence in water science and technology (the network), before agreeing to its establishment. A number of resolutions emanated from the meeting which must be implemented in the comprehensive business plan to be tabled at the 3rd AMCOST Summit/Conference/Symposium to be held in Nairobi, Kenya during September 2007. At the meeting, African Water was introduced through a presentation to the ministers.

#### 7th WATERNETWARFSA/GWP-SA symposium

WaterNet is a regional network for capacity building in integrated water resources management (IWRM) in Southern Africa, which was founded in 2000 and which currently has a membership of 49 university departments and research institutions in fourteen countries. The Water Research Fund for Southern Africa WARFSA was established in 1999 and promotes research activities in water-related topics, having so far funded 70 research projects in 10 countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Both are affiliate programmes of the SADC Water Division (SADC WD). The WaterNet/WARFSA Symposia were held in six different countries in the region, each time hosted by one or more member institutions of the two programmes. The Global Water Partnership – Southern Africa participated in the last two symposia as co-organisers. The 7th symposium was held in Lilongwe, Malawi in November 2006. At one of the sessions, the African Water programme was introduced, and brochures were distributed. The 8th symposium will be held in Zimbabwe in 2007 – see the website for more information. (<http://www.iwsi.co.zw/waternet.cfm?pid=56>).





## NEWSLETTER

Number 5 September 2007

Welcome to the fifth African Water newsletter.

African Water is a 2-year (2006-2007) Specific Support Action to increase involvement of African researchers in the water-related components of EU Framework Programme 7 (FP7). Interest in the African Water project has increased significantly over the past year, since the website [www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net) and first newsletter were launched in June 2006. The web statistics show an average of 17 visitors per day. These have been referred to African Water through search engines like Google, but came also from sites closely related to African Water like IGRAC, CORDIS or ESASTAP. There are also 253 registered subscribers to the newsletter. The African Water Newsletter is available free of charge. To subscribe to the newsletter and email bulletins, register on [www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net). To comment on the newsletter, or unsubscribe, please email [info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk) putting "newsletter" in the subject line.

The African Water website is continuously updated with information relevant for science cooperation in Africa. New items are presented on the entry pages of the various sub-sites and the most relevant ones are also collected on the home page to give an overview. Links to relevant institutions and other projects and initiatives are regularly added.

This edition brings you the latest news on FP7, as well as details to coincide with the forthcoming training workshops in East and West Africa which will take place immediately after the second call in the Environment priority. There is also a report of the 2007 UKRO conference, attended by three African Water subscribers, and other conferences and meetings at which African Water has been publicised, including the 2007 Stockholm World Water Week.



Neil Runnalls

This is the penultimate edition of the newsletter as the African Water project finishes in December 2007. Neil Runnalls, the Project Coordinator, believes that, though ambitious, the project has been largely successful in assisting Africans to define and communicate their research priorities to the European Commission and into the Framework Programme, and raising awareness, in both Africa and Europe, of the opportunities for participation in research partnerships, thereby helping to deliver major EU commitments to strengthen African water research capacity.

However, we feel it is essential that this process continues in 2008 and beyond. When we report to the EU in December we will be making recommendations on how to continue, expand and improve the African Water concept. We would welcome your input, as our stakeholders, to this. If you have any comments on the activities of African Water, or suggestions for the future, please email them to [info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk) by 30th November 2007, putting "recommendations" in the subject line.

### FP7 news

The EC has announced that the second call of the Environment priority under FP7 will be published on 20 November 2007 with the 19 February 2008 as deadline for submissions. An indicative budget of about €216 million is allocated to the 2008 work programme, where more than 50 topics for research have been identified. A DRAFT of the second call is available on the website - note that the final version may vary from this, but the draft does give an indication of likely topics. Remember, there are also opportunities for water-related projects in other priorities, but note that deadlines vary across different work programmes. For further information see the CORDIS FP7 webpage which contains links to documents and submission mechanisms [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)

[info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)  
[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)



#### UK Research Office (UKRO) Annual Conference, July 2007, Imperial College, London UK

UKRO is the European arm of the UK research community, providing support services for the EC funding process. The annual conference is targeted primarily at European research and liaison officers from universities and research institutes; in other words, those responsible for promoting and supporting their institution's European activity.

Nineteen African Water subscribers responded to the invitation to apply for sponsorship to attend this year's conference. The selectors were looking for applicants who could not only describe how their organisation would benefit from their attendance at the conference, but could also provide an indication of how they would use their networks of contacts to disseminate the information gained to others in their region. Three successful applicants were eventually selected from the extremely strong field, from South Africa, Mauritius and Ethiopia. The African representatives were accompanied to the conference by African Water's Neil Runnalls and Helen Houghton-Carr (both CEH). African Water was publicised at the conference, to inform UK research administrators of this mechanism by which their water researchers can make contact with potential African partners.

The conference attracted approximately 200 delegates, who heard about various different issues including the European Research Area, Intellectual Property Rights in FP7, ethics in FP7, international cooperation across FP7, financial provisions of FP7 grant agreements, EuropeAid and the European Research Council, many direct from European Commission speakers. Copies of presentations from the event can be found at: [http://www.ukro.ac.uk/annual\\_conference/index.htm](http://www.ukro.ac.uk/annual_conference/index.htm). As well as the networking opportunities presented at the event, the African Water team also allowed time for discussions with the three African representatives regarding their specific research challenges and how these issues mapped on to the European Research programmes.

Feedback from the African representatives was very positive. The South African delegate said "With most of the presentations I could think of people in my university or elsewhere that should have been sitting there with me and could benefit from what was being shared. Fortunately the availability of the presentations gives me an opportunity to bring it to their attention and, where practical, discuss with them. The exposure to the conference, people and presentations was an extremely positive experience. It has answered a number of my questions (and created new questions!). It will help me to improve efforts to facilitate participation by my university in FP7 projects. I am sure my colleagues from Africa had a similar positive experience!"



Neil Runnalls with delegates from Ethiopia and Mauritius

European liaison officers in African research organisations should consider attending the 2008 conference, details of which will be announced on the UKRO website.

#### African Water training workshops

Following the successful training workshop for water researchers in the Southern Africa region, held in Pretoria, South Africa in early 2007, two further workshops are being organised for researchers in East and West Africa. The West Africa workshop will be held in Dakar, Senegal on 15-16<sup>th</sup> November 2007. The East Africa workshop will be held in Nairobi, Kenya on 28-30 November 2007.

The workshops will provide interested researchers involved in the water field, as well as research administrators and trainers, with all of the necessary information to participate in FP7. They will include sessions introducing the EU and FP7, water research opportunities within the programme, how to get involved in a project, and how to prepare a proposal, contractual and financial issues. Many of the sessions will be interactive, with some group sessions and plenty of time for discussion. In addition, there will be an opportunity to speak to the trainers on a one-to-one basis, in order to discuss your personal strategy for participation. Details of both these events have been emailed to African Water subscribers and are available on the website. Places are limited so early registration is advised (preferably by 19<sup>th</sup> October).



### Centres of Excellence in Water Science and Technology

WRC organised a meeting with the French International Development Institute in July 2007 to discuss the progress of the NEPAD Centres of Excellence. The main aim was to further the progress since the 2006 Cairo summit between AMCOW and AMCOST. The second draft of the business plan for the network of Centres of Excellence in Water Science and Technology has been completed and submitted to NEPAD for their consideration. NEPAD is planning a stakeholder workshop/meeting that will look and discuss the content of the business plan. The business plan will be tabled in the next AMCOST meeting this November in Nairobi. The invitation or call for submission of Institutional Profiles closed at the end of July 2007. Around 15 institutions from all over Africa submitted their profiles so that they can be considered as members of the proposed African network.

### Other Africa news and events

Eiman Karar (WRC) attended the preparatory African Science Academy Development Initiative Planning Meeting and Workshop in Dakar between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> May 2007. The African Science Academy Development Initiative (ASADI) is organising an annual Africa-US symposium and joint working session spanning the ten years of the project in November 2007. A major underlying goal of these ASADI annual meetings is to use the theme of the conference as a vehicle to help African academies explore their role with respect to evidence-based advising for policy in their respective nations. The conference theme is "Water and Health". The West Africa African Water training workshop will be attached to this event.



*Dr Xola Mati (South African Academy of Sciences), Eiman Karar (WRC) and Prof. Eugene Cloete (University of Pretoria)*

June 2007 saw the inauguration of the North-South Centre at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich. The activities of the Swiss Centre for International Agriculture (ZIL) and the Network for International Development and Cooperation (Nideco) are now jointly executed under the umbrella of the new North-South Centre which aims at promoting research and education in the field of international development and cooperation in technical, natural, human and social sciences. During discussions, information on African Water as an EC initiative targeting African researchers to access EU funding was shared.

Information on African Water was shared with delegates at the International Association of Local Government (ICLEI) symposium on "Water for Local Needs - the Contribution of Local Governments to IWRM" in July 2007, and with a high-level delegation from the Kenyan water sector to South Africa in September 2007. At the latter event, the East Africa training workshop was also publicised.

### African Water at World Water Week in Stockholm



*African Water posters in an EUWI session*

Large posters publicising the African Water project were prominently displayed at all of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) meetings held during the World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden in August 2007. A large number of brochures were also distributed to delegates. The audiences at the EUWI meetings were typically high level national representatives from EU Member States, developing countries, NGO's and the European Commission. Neil Runnalls and Helen Houghton-Carr (CEH), Ian Smout and Julie Fisher (WEDC) and Thomas Zipper (Hydrophil) were in Stockholm during the event.

The publicity created considerable interest and helped raise the profile of African Water at the political level, and provide impetus for establishing longer term support to African water researchers beyond the project.

### Other forthcoming events

#### 8th WATERNET/WARFSA/GWP-SA symposium

The 8th WATERNET symposium will take place in Livingstone, Zambia between 30th October and 3rd November 2007. The symposium is organised by: WATERNET, the Institute of Water and Sanitation Development (IWSA), the Water Research Fund for Southern Africa (WARFSA), and the Global Water Partnership-Southern Africa (GWP-SA). The theme of this year's symposium is "Integrated Water Resource Management - from Concept to Practice". Information on African Water will be shared at the conference. For more information, see <http://www.iwsd.co.zw/waternet.cfm?pid=56>

#### UNESCO HELP (Hydrology for Life, Environment and Policy) Southern Symposium

"HELP in Action: Local Solutions to Global Water Problems - Lessons from the South" will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa between 4th and 9th November 2007. The symposium is aimed at bridging the gap between science and policy towards sustainable development at local, national and the international levels. Information on African Water will be shared at the symposium. For more information, see <http://unescohelp2007.com/>

#### 33rd WEDC international conference

The 33rd WEDC conference will take place in Accra, Ghana between 7th and 11th April 2008. The conference is organised in conjunction with the Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing in Ghana. The theme of this year's conference is "Access to Sanitation and Safe Water: Global Partnerships and Local Actions". A review paper on African Water will be presented at the conference, and there will be an African Water side event. For more information, see <http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/conferences/conference1.php?ID=8>

### New links

Recent links added to the website:

- **SPLASH** is the name of the European Union Water Initiative European Research Area Network (EUWI Era-Net). It is a consortium of 15 ministries, funding agencies and national research and technological development authorities from 11 European countries. SPLASH aims to improve the effectiveness of European funded research on water for development and to develop the capacity of local organisations to coordinate and communicate their research activities. The project focus is Africa and the Mekong region. <http://www.splash-era.net>

- **ASKIA** (Access to Scientific Knowledge in Africa) is an online information source to help African researchers find scientific information on the Internet. The project – run by the Ethiopia-based UN Economic Commission for Africa through their Information and Communication Technology division – aims to support and promote access to scientific knowledge for scientists, university students, lecturers and policymakers. <http://www.uneca.org/askia>

- **International Foundation for Science (IFS)** is a research council with international operations and the mission to build the scientific capacity of developing countries in sciences related to the sustainable management of biological and water resources. Since 1974, IFS has provided support to more than 3500 IFS Grantees in some 100 developing countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The IFS released its report "Strengthening Capacity for Water Resources Research in Countries with Vulnerable Scientific Infrastructure" at the Stockholm World Water Week. <http://www.ifs.se>

The screenshot shows the SPLASH website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, About, Contact, and Sponsor. Below this is the SPLASH logo and the tagline "Coordinating European water research for poverty reduction". A secondary navigation bar lists: Home, ABOUT SPLASH, ACTIVITIES, PARTICIPANTS, WORK PACKAGES, INDUSTRIAL, and NEWS. The main content area is titled "What is SPLASH?" and includes a paragraph describing the project as a consortium of 15 ministries, funding agencies, and national research and technological development authorities from 11 European countries. It also features a "Purpose" section and a "NEWS" section with a sub-heading "SPLASH in Stockholm".



## NEWSLETTER

Number 6 December 2007

The African Water project is coming to an end! However, the process of increasing African involvement in the EU Framework Programme will never be fully completed. From its inception, African Water was conceived and operated as just one of many actions contributing to a larger vision for African, and indeed wider developing country, involvement in the FP. Throughout its life, those involved in African Water have built upon past work, and created synergies with on-going and planned projects. To a large extent we have been successful in this endeavour. A number of linkages are in place to take forward the progress made in African Water.

African Water has been a very timely project. It has coincided with a number of quite independent actions which have all been working towards improving African continental and regional coordination of research and water related development. These African wide initiatives, driven by a wide range of organisations, have enabled African Water to link in with these efforts and hence have a far greater impact. This major African wide movement is affecting organisations and individuals at all levels of African society and African Water has been able to contribute to this process. Highlights include:

- Primarily through the Water Research Commission, and its role in the NEPAD AMCOST process, African Water has been able to input at ministerial level, even affecting recent AU-EU dialogue on water research.
- Synergies have been exploited between the major African Scientific Academies Development Initiative (ASADI) in late 2007, and UK sponsored events for African Academies in early 2007.
- The project has engaged with senior administrators from some of the leading universities in southern, east and west Africa. Through these contacts, we believe we will see these larger universities lead the way in their respective regions - taking with them many other organisations in their region.
- Newly-formed African associations of research administrators (e.g. WARIMA, SARIMA) have been contacted, and communication channels established to feed information of special relevance to them.
- African Water was one of the first concrete examples of coordinated European action arising directly from the EU Water Initiative (EUWI). It has laid the groundwork for the on-going and more substantial SPLASH Era-Net action to coordinate EU Member State water for development research.
- Many individuals have been guided to those parts of FP that are most suitable for their own interests. This has occurred through an efficient web portal, e-bulletins, conferences and training workshops.

African Water has provided a useful test bed upon which a range of different approaches to communication and training have been trialled. Some major lessons have been learned and will be taken forward into future EU efforts to build research collaboration between the EU and Africa.

*Neil Runnalls, Project Coordinator*

### SPLASH - the EUWI Era-Net

SPLASH is a consortium of 15 ministries, funding agencies and national research and technological development authorities from 11 European countries. Its main objectives are to minimise duplication of research, identify areas where there are gaps in knowledge, and share good research management practice, resulting ultimately in joint research programmes. The project focus is Africa and the Mekong region. SPLASH has embarked on a very active programme and wants to publicise its activities to those outside the project consortium and motivate people to get involved. You can find out more at <http://splash-era.net/index.php>. If you would like to receive the SPLASH newsletter, please go to <http://splash-era.net/enquiries.php> and simply insert 'subscribe' into the subject line.

[info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)  
[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)





### FP7 Calls for Proposals

On 30th November 2007, the European Commission launched its 2008 calls for proposals. A total of 34 calls in many different areas of the FP were published. Participants from African organisation are eligible to participate in any project, and receive funding from the EU. However, this must be in addition to a minimum number of EU partners (usually three organisations from different countries).

The most relevant area to water researchers is likely to be the Environment theme. This theme funds actions focused on: predicting climate, ecological, earth and ocean systems changes; tools and technologies for monitoring, prevention and mitigation of environmental pressures and risks including on health; and sustainability of the natural and man-made environment. A Work Programme sets out a range of topics on which applications can be submitted under this call, and gives details of the aim and focus of each of these, and the type of project that the EU wishes to fund. These topics include a number that are water-related or relevant. The deadline for submission of 2008 Environment projects is **25th February 2008**. A further call, with a new Work Programme and new topics, will be launched later in 2008. There are also topics that may be of interest to water researchers in other Themes of FP7, such as Food, Agriculture, Fisheries & Biotechnology; Nanosciences & Nanotechnology; Space. These can also be found through the 'Find a Call' page, as can opportunities under the Marie Curie programme for research training and fellowships. Deadlines vary according to the call.

Those interested in further information on the call for proposals should go to the 'Find a Call' page on the CORDIS website; this can be found at: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm>. Then, click on the link to the 'call identifier' for the call that is of interest. The call identifier for environment is FP7-ENV-2008-1, under the Co-operation heading. You can then download the information about the call and how participate. This information includes a Call Fiche (basic information about the call); a Work Programme (a detailed document that sets out which topics proposals are invited for); and Guides for Applicants (which give practical information on the application and submission process). For more information, see the CORDIS FP7 home page at [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)

### African Water training workshops

The West Africa workshop was held in Dakar, Senegal on 15-16th November 2007, directly after the *Third Annual Conference of the African Science Academy Development Initiative* which focused on water and health. The workshop was run by Neil Runnalls from the UK Centre of Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) and Kevin Pietersen representing the Water Research Commission of South Africa (WRC), with logistical support from Zagry Scholtz, also from WRC. Eighteen participants attended the workshop, drawn not only from Senegal but also from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Uganda. English-French translation was provided.

The East Africa workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya on 28-30 November 2007, in partnership with *United Nations Environment Programme* (UNEP). It was run by Amanda Crowfoot from the UK Research Office (UKRO) based in Brussels, together with Neil Runnalls and Kevin Pietersen, and with Zagry Scholtz again sorting out the logistics. The workshop was opened by Halifa Drammeh, Special Advisor for African Affairs at UNEP, and was attended by 22 participants, all from Kenya, who particularly appreciated the opportunity for one-to-one discussions with the trainers on the day after the workshop.

Presentations from the workshops will be available to download from the African Water website, in addition to those from the Southern Africa workshop earlier in 2007. The three workshops have provided interested researchers involved in the water research and related areas, as well as research administrators and trainers, with information necessary to participate in FP7. However, there is a clear demand for ongoing support in the future, possible through an African contact point in the EU.

### African Water at the 33rd WEDC international conference

African Water will be at the WEDC conference in Accra, Ghana between 7th and 11th April 2008. The conference, entitled "Access to Sanitation and Safe Water: Global Partnerships and Local Actions", is organised in conjunction with the Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing in Ghana. There are two main activities planned: firstly, there will be a paper presentation on the different facets of African Water; secondly, there will be an African Water side event on the afternoon of Friday 11th April, where delegates will be able to find out more about opportunities offered by FP7 and show examples of previous relevant work undertaken. Further details of this will appear shortly on the conference website, see <http://wedc.lboro.ac.uk/conferences/conference1.php?ID=8>

## Appendix 4 Project Powerpoint Presentation

**AFRICAN WATER**

**Supporting African involvement in the EU Framework Programme**

CEH  
Water Engineering & Hydraulics  
WEDC  
UKRO  
UK RESEARCH OFFICE

6 EUWI

**African Water**

- Goal to increase the capacity of African water researchers and organisations to become involved in FP7 and other research initiatives and, thereby, generate research outputs which have a major influence on achieving the MDGs
- Specific Support Action funded under FP6 in support of water-specific commitments made to Africa by EU
- July 2005 - December 2007 (30 months duration)

AFRICAN WATER 6 EUWI

**Project partners**

- CEH - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK (Coordinator)
- WRC - Water Research Commission, South Africa
- WEDC - Water, Engineering and Development Centre, Loughborough University, UK
- Hydrophil - Hydrophil, Austria
- UKRO - United Kingdom Research Office, Brussels, Belgium

AFRICAN WATER 6 EUWI

**Background**

Factors contributing to level of African participation in FP6:

- Lack of awareness among African water researchers that FP openings existed.
- Lack of knowledge/experience of the administrative procedures for FP participation.
- Lack of ready access to information about FP opportunities (e.g. calls)
- Lack of awareness by European water researchers of African research capacity.
- Disinclination of European consortia to involve African partners.
- Weak position of African partners with respect to consortium building.
- Disadvantages for African partners of participating "remotely" in the FP.

AFRICAN WATER 6 EUWI

**Project objectives**

- To increase the capacity of African water researchers to contribute to achieving the water-related MDGs (water supply, sanitation, water resource management) through the development of new approaches, methods and technologies and improved knowledge management.
- To increase the involvement of African water researchers specifically in FP7, and generally in their partnership with European water researchers in identifying and tackling the major research challenges facing Africa, including issues affecting the ACP-EU Water Facility.
- To have a catalytic effect of increasing the successful participation of African water researchers in other collaborative research initiatives outside the FP (i.e. research funded by EU Member States, non-EU donors, international agencies and charitable foundations).

AFRICAN WATER 6 EUWI

**Project structure**

- WP1 Information, training and communication tools
- WP2 Working through existing networks
- WP3 African outreach
- WP4 Africans in Europe
- WP5 Project management

AFRICAN WATER 6 EUWI

**WP1: Information, training and communication tools**

To design a website, brochures, posters, presentations and written material to support information, training and dissemination activities specifically for African water researchers, and to develop the means for communication and dissemination of those materials.

African Water website  
 Publicity material (brochure, posters, newsletters)  
 Training material




[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)




**WP2: Working through existing networks**

To use existing networks that exist between African researchers and either the EU FP or Member State programmes as the starting point for increasing African involvement in FP7, and to generate a database of key African water researchers and Centres of Excellence who can be sent information on FP7, invited to training sessions, invited to share experiences of the FP with African contemporaries, invited to suggest African water research priorities, and added to partner lists.

Database of African water researchers  
 Complementary initiatives  
 Subscription services



**WP3: African outreach**

Outreach activities in Africa to promote the SSA to African water researchers, to undertake a range of training activities in Africa which will enable face-to-face meetings with African water researchers through which they will receive various levels of training and/or information about FP7, and to obtain from African researcher their priorities for water research to improve delivery of the MDGs in Africa.

African water research priorities  
 Regional training workshops



**WP4: Africans in Europe**

To arrange for a delegation of three representatives from African water research organisations to attend the 2007 UKRO Annual Conference in London, UK to increase African awareness of Brussels institutions, meet key EC staff and increase knowledge about framework processes.

UKRO Annual Conference 2007



**For more information.....**

[www.africanwater.net](http://www.africanwater.net)

[info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:info-africanwater@ceh.ac.uk)

