

EWA Newsletter

May 2010

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Dear Reader,

*With the receipt of this monthly letter you will not only be well informed about the different activities and initiatives of the EWA, but also of the new events organised by our association. We will also be providing you with interesting inside news directly from the EU capital **Brussels**, from the European Commission and the European institutions. The EWA newsletter also gives a good insight into the EWA member associations, into their activities and aims. We hope that you will agree that the EWA newsletter provides expertise information and therefore proves to be of interesting reading, so that you might want to recommend it further to other water professionals and experts. The EWA newsletter service is provided monthly and is free of charge.*

Water scarcity and droughts – progress report

On 18 May 2010, the EC Commission published a report on the progress of Member States in addressing water scarcity and droughts (COM(2010) 228). Despite more rainfall in southern European countries in 2009 than in previous years, greater efforts are still needed to stop and reverse the over-exploitation of Europe's limited water resources. An effective water pricing policy, water efficiency and water saving measures appear to be essential priorities.

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Water scarcity and droughts – 2012 Policy review

The EC Commission organized a Stakeholders consultation meeting on Water Scarcity and drought took place on 27 April 2010 on the basis of a “non paper” ([more](#)) which highlighted 3 priority areas: agriculture, water efficiency and desertification. Access to data proves to be a general concerns (i.e. abstraction data).

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Biowaste

On the basis of the 2009 Green Paper, the EC Commission adopted a strategy on biowaste [COM\(2010\)0235](#). One of the key conclusions is that no stand-alone Directive on biowaste is necessary. Better implementation of existing legislation should fit the job to promote composting and anaerobic digestion as the most promising environmental and economic options for bio-waste. However, an important pre-condition is good quality input to these processes. In the majority of cases this would be best achieved by separate collection of bio-waste.

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CAP reform

Since the Lisbon has entered in force, the CAP reform will be decided under the co-decision procedure, which will

NORMAN network on emerging environmental substances

Water Reuse

Danube Basin NGO Network Project

New Publication from E-Water

Valuation of Wastewater Systems - Systematic Recording, Assessment and Updating

Recommended Actions for Dealing with Stormwater

Calendar of events

2 June 2010

Surface Water Management - Next Steps and Action Programmes ([more](#))
London, UK

2-4 June 2010

IWA Specialist Conference “Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants in Towns and Communities of the XXI Century: Technologies, Design and Operation” ([more](#))
Moscow, Russia

3-5 June 2010

Save Energy, Save Water, Save the Planet – International Conference and Exhibition
Sofia, Bulgaria ([more](#))

14-18 June 2010

21st International specialized course OPERATION AND CONTROL OF ACTIVATED SLUDGE PROCESSES USING MICROSCOPIC ANALYSIS
Perugia Italy ([more](#))

bring the European parliament in the debate. This may completely change the outcomes of the reform. The EC Commission is expected to present an official proposal for CAP reform by the end of 2010. Nevertheless, before setting down any initial policy guidelines for this strategic sector, Commissioner Ciolos has launched a first consultation ([more](#)) to be closed in June.

Previously, in 2006, the water sector was unable to influence the CAP and was opposed at that time that there was no concrete measure related to the WFD implementation. Now the RBMP are there. DG ENV wants to be in. The main issue at stake is to get funding for the implementation of WFD agricultural measures.

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European Green Capital

The Committee of Regions organized in Brussels on 4th May a seminar to present the European Green Capital Award launched by DG Environment in 2010 ([more](#)). Each year, one European city will be selected according to the fact that the city:

- Has a consistent record of achieving high environmental standards;
- Is committed to ongoing and ambitious goals for further environmental improvement and sustainable development;
- Can act as a role model to inspire other cities and promote best practices to all other European cities.

This contest acknowledges the key role that cities play in sustainable development. The award winners are:

- 2010: Stockholm
- 2011: Hamburg
- 2012: Barcelona, Malmö, Nantes, Nuremberg, Reykjavik, and Vitoria-Gasteiz have been shortlisted. Decision is to take place in October 2010.

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LIFE + call for proposal

The EC Commission issued on 4 May 2010 the LIFE+ annual call for proposal ([more](#)). Deadline for submission is on 1 September 2010. As it concerns the water sector, the main objective is to contribute to enhanced water quality by developing cost-effective measures to achieve good ecological status in view of developing WFD river basin management plans.

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Desertification in the context of water scarcity and droughts

As part of the building blocks for the Water Scarcity and Droughts 2012 Policy Review, DG Environment has launched a call for proposals to develop pilot project on prevention activities to halt desertification in Europe. Deadline for submission is on 30 June 2010 ([guidelines](#), [examples of relevant projects](#), [priority themes](#))

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[16 June 2010](#)

Modelling Monitoring Management Workshop ([more](#))
Luxembourg/Kirchberg

[23 June 2010](#)

Hydropower - Opportunities, Challenges and Sharing Best Practice ([more](#))
London, UK

[13 – 17 September](#)

IFAT ENTSORGA
16th International Trade Fair for Water – Sewage – Refuse – Recycling
15th International Symposium Water, Wastewater, Waste and Energy ([more](#))
Munich, Germany

[27th – 28th September 2010](#)

4th European Water and Wastewater Management Conference, Seminar & Exhibition ([more](#))
The Royal Armouries Leeds, UK

[12. – 14. October 2010](#)

Enviro-management 2010
Landfills in Europe & Waste Management
High Tatras, Slovakia

[5 November 2010](#)

6th EWA Brussels Conference
Implementing the River Basin Management Plans: State of Reporting and Expectations ([more](#))
Brussels, Belgium

[15th – 17th November 2010](#)

15th European Biosolids and Organic Resources Conference, Workshop & Exhibition ([more](#))
The Royal Armouries, Leeds, UK

Hot Issue

Hearing of J. Potocnik, Environment Commissioner, at the EP intergroup on water

Commissioner Janez Potocnik praised the Water Framework Directive as the right tool to face the water stress because it provides for a comprehensive and flexible approach at the level of river basin. Whatever there are some delays with the adoption of plans in nine Member States, the WFD implementation is well on track. However Commissioner Potocnik pointed 2 issues which deserve higher attention.

- Legal and illegal over-abstraction which concerns both ground and surface water). It is not a surprise that the main culprit is agriculture, especially in southern countries.
- Integration of water concerns and uncertainties in future infrastructure projects (i.e. inland navigation, hydropower, etc.).

Commissioner Potocnik explained the compliance check on the RBMP and the preparation of the so-called blueprint for 2012, which already appears as the year of water after the year of biodiversity in 2010 and the year of natural resources efficiency in 2011. He sees no point to amend the WFD but nevertheless there is a clear need to boost the “water efficiency” for which he would like to have a clear hierarchy of options adopted as it exists for water management. Water saving would come first, then water reuse and desalination.

Commissioner Potocnik also made clear that the WFD implementation will require additional resources (CAP, regional policies). As discussions on the next programming period of EU structural funds are likely to start soon, “water ambassadors” are needed to promote the interests of the water sector ([full text of his speech](#)).

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News

IFAT 2010

The environmental trade fair, IFAT ENTSORGA, the 16th International Trade Fair for Water – Sewage – Refuse – Recycling, will take place from 13 to 17 September in 2010.

It is the world’s most important trade fair for innovations and new developments in the fields of water, sewage, refuse and recycling. The event offers an attractive exhibition programme featuring state-of-the-art technology and a broad range of professional services for water, sewage and refuse management.

The European Water Association will organise a one-and-a-half-days International Symposium “Sustainable Wastewater Management New Strategies, Technologies and Innovative Solutions” (14-15 September 2010) ([more](#))

CALL FOR POSTERS still open until **14th June**: visit our website and learn more: www.EWA-online.eu
If you are interested to present a poster during the symposium, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

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Policy agenda

1 June 2010

**WssTP Stakeholder event -
Strengthening European research and
innovation for water**
Brussels, Belgium

17-18 June 2010

**WFD workshop on Biodiversity and
Water**

23 June 2010

**5th meeting of the EP intergroup on
water**
Brussels, Belgium

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6th EWA Brussels Conference

Implementing the River Basin Management Plans: State of Reporting and Expectations:

This event, organized in cooperation with the European Commission DG Environment, and kindly hosted by Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the EU in Brussels, will bring together experts reporting on the current situation of the river basin management plans of the EU member states and will end with a panel discussion including all speakers. As such, EWA Brussels conference is a unique opportunity to be informed about the progress made with the implementation of EU water policy.

The conference will present initial expectations of the RBMP achievements in practice. A first discussion will evolve around the effectiveness of key factors on how to implement the elaborated plans.

The event will provide a thorough expertise point of view and feedback on the expected effectiveness of the RBMP across the EU. The participants will have the chance during the final discussion of the conference to exchange their views on the implementation strategy and in this way to contribute to the CIS activities on an informal basis.

Use our special early bird book offer and reserve your place at the conference until **1st of July**. Please note, places are limited!

For more information visit the [conference website](#).

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Publications

NORMAN network on emerging environmental substances

The NORMAN network (former 6th EU FP project, and now a permanent non-profit association with more than 40 members in Europe and beyond) works as an independent and competent forum of reference laboratories, research centres and related organisations in the field of emerging environmental substances. It is the leading disseminator of information in this field, organising events and information exchanges, maintaining three databases and publishing a regular newsletter/bulletin. ([more](#))

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Water Reuse

ERSAR, the Portuguese Regulator Authority for the Water and Wastewater Services has edited a technical guide on water reuse, which addresses to every water professional. The guide focuses on the wastewater quality aspects in line with several reuse applications. The legal and institutional issues related to water reuse projects' implementation, the economic and financial viability aspects, and public participation and acceptance of water reuse projects are also approached. The document is available in Portuguese and can be downloaded ([more](#)). Contact person: [Maria Helena Marecos do Monte](#)

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Danube Basin NGO Network Project

In response to the Danube Strategy developed by the EC Commission, the civil society sector in all concerned countries (EU member states and non member states) is invited to engage actively in the process. A NGO networks has been set up ([more](#)).

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New Publication from E-Water

Uniqueness of Water Services (Pekka E. Pietilä et. al) ([read](#))

Obtaining fresh water from atmosphere using electrostatic precipitation: theory, efficiency and limitations (S. Tapuchi, et. al) ([read](#))

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Valuation of Wastewater Systems - Systematic Recording, Assessment and Updating

August 2005, 36 pages, DIN 4

ISBN 978-3-940173-60-7 *€ 39,00

This DWA Standard summarises the principles for the recording, assessment and updating of the asset values including the depreciation of public wastewater facilities. Through compliance with these principles the commensurate depreciation of and interest rate for the investment capital within the sense of the payments determined according to economic aspects are, in particular, guaranteed. For more information and order, please contact [Ms Mona Lorvik](#).

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Recommended Actions for Dealing with Stormwater

August 2007, 35 pages, DIN A4

ISBN 978-3-941089-97-6 *€ 41,00

The Advisory Leaflet provides municipalities, those obliged to dispose sewage as well as planners with fundamental considerations regarding urban land-use planning or general drainage planning. For more information and order, please contact [Ms Mona Lorvik](#).

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