



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research



The EU Water Initiative: Bridging the Gap between Science and Policy in the Mediterranean

Marialuisa Tamborra

**European Commission - DG
Research**

International Cooperation

Marialuisa.Tamborra@ec.europa.eu

NOSTRUM-DSS INECO Joint Workshop, Larnaca (Cyprus) 25 Oct. 2007





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Introducing the EU Water initiative – Water for life

- EU initiative launched at the WSSD (2002) in Johannesburg
- Contributing to MDG and WSSD on water:
 - Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation;
 - develop Integrated Water manag. and efficiency plans.
- Political initiative, not funding initiative
- EUWI at present under review





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

EUWI: Objectives

- Reinforcing **political commitment** towards action and innovation-oriented partnership;
- Promoting improved water **governance, capacity building & awareness**;
- Promoting improved **efficiency & effectiveness** of water management **through multi-stakeholder dialogue**;
- Strengthening cooperation through promoting **river basin approaches** in national and transboundary waters;
- Helping identifying **additional financing** resources to ensure sustainable financing





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

EUWI Working Groups

- Regional Working Groups:
 - Africa,
 - EECCA,
 - Latin America,
 - Mediterranean;
- Horizontal components/WGs:
 - **Research,**
 - Finance,
 - Monitoring





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

EU Research in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

- The commitments taken by the EU at the Johannesburg Summit in 2002 resulted in a boost to **IWRM research and its global dimension**, with FP6 introducing topics in its calls for proposals supporting EUWI & MDGs since 2002.
- In **FP5** IWRM research involving international cooperation was carried out essentially under INCO whereas **FP6** funding was available both under INCO and the priority “Global Change & Ecosystems” with a budget of ~130 Mio €
- IN **FP7** this area of research will be carried out mainly under the **Environment Theme** (areas: Sustainable Management of Resources and also Environmental Technologies)
- Possible contribution can also come for ex. from the Health Theme and Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnologies theme.





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Some highlights on achievement of the research component under FP6

- Approximately **60 projects** have been funded under FP6 in IWRM including 4 Integrated projects (5-10 MEuro).
- Some of these projects are specifically aimed at supporting the EUWI, such as the **twinning initiatives** and **coordination actions** that are aimed at involving stakeholders and translating scientific knowledge into policy terms.
- **EUWI-ERANET (SPLASH)**: main achievement of the EUWI research component for the coordination of MS' research in water management for the developing world.

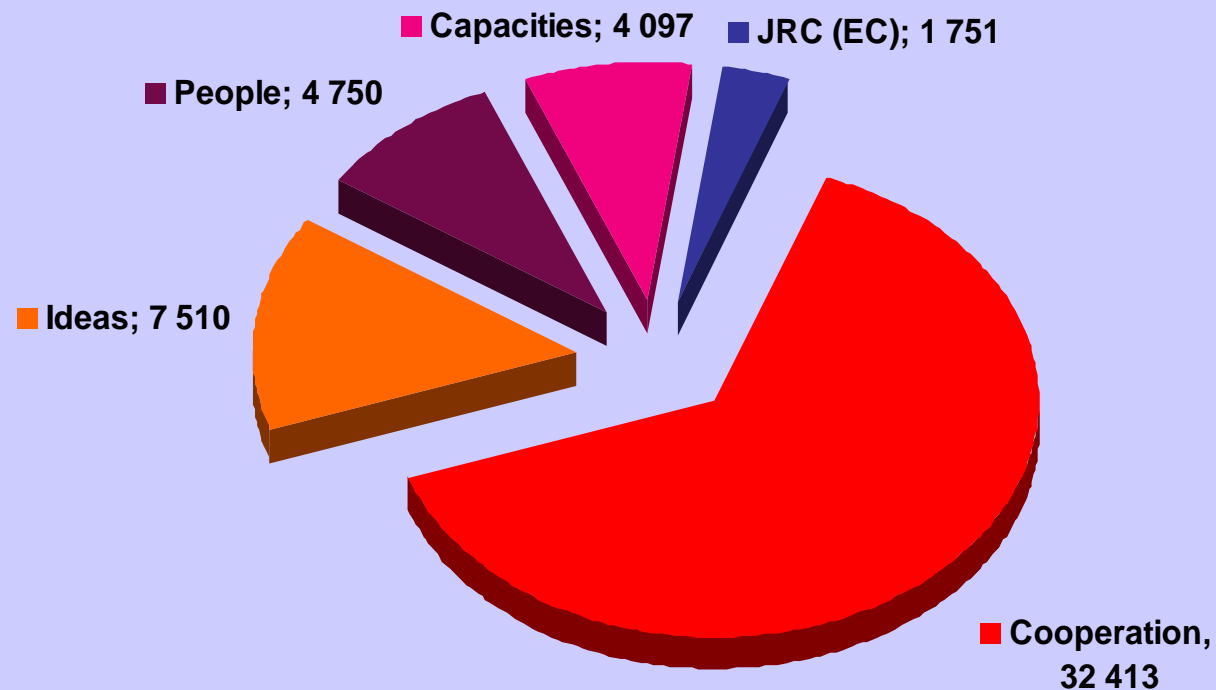




EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

FP7 budget (€ 50 521 million, current prices)



■ Note: Euratom FP: €2.7 billion over 5 years - not included above





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

FP7 2007-2013 'Cooperation' budget

I. Cooperation

Budget
(€ million,
current prices)

1. Health	6 100
2. Food, agriculture and fisheries, and biotechnology	1 935
3. Information and communication technologies	9 050
4. Nanotechnologies, materials and production	3 475
5. Energy	2 350
6. Environment	1 890
7. Transport	4 160
8. Socioeconomic research	623
9. Space	1 430
10. Security	1 400
Total	32 413

* Not including non-nuclear activities of the Joint Research Centre: €1 751 million



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

International Cooperation in FP7 - Aims

- Support competitiveness through **strategic partnerships** with third countries in selected fields of science
- enhance knowledge and scientific excellence by enabling European research organisations to establish contacts with their partners in such third countries, thereby facilitating **access to research environments outside Europe**
- Address specific problems facing third countries or global problems on the basis of **mutual interest and mutual benefit**
- Use S&T cooperation to **reinforce the Community's external relations** and other relevant policies



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

FP7: A new approach to support International Cooperation

- The theme-oriented international cooperation actions are carried out under the **Cooperation Specific Programme** with:
 - the **opening of all activities to third countries** – both for ICPC and industrialised countries in the Themes
 - the introduction of **Specific international co-operation actions (SICAs)** dedicated to ICPCs.
- The international actions in the area of human potential are carried out under the **People Specific Programme**
- Actions of the **Capacity Specific Programme** are designed to
 - identify **S&T priorities** at the regional level together with Third Countries,
 - reinforce the **participation** of countries with S&T agreement
 - promote a **co-ordinated approach among MS** to S&T international Cooperation.



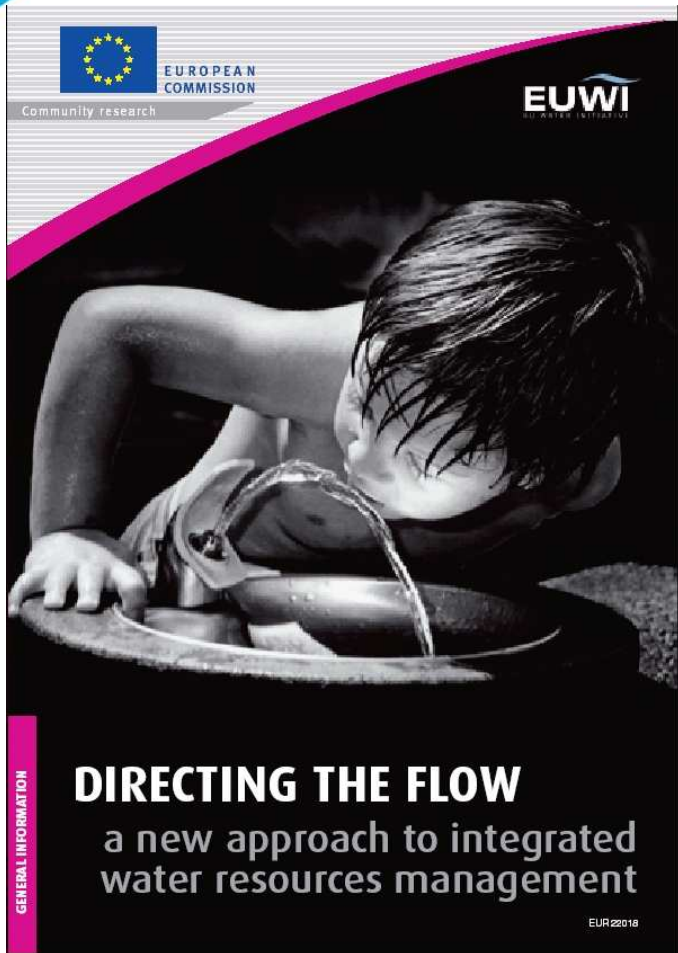
- (Also the Ideas Specific Programme is open to 3rd Countries.)



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Main conclusions of Review EU-INCO water research from FP4 to FP6



- Increased role in **raising awareness** among societal actors of the challenges facing political leaders, policy-makers & water users.
- Enhanced integration of **science with policy priorities**
- Increased emphasis on environmental, societal & economic **impacts of research**
- Promotion of **new approaches** to water policy and policy-relevant water science thanks to stronger interplay between EU & 3rd countries research teams.



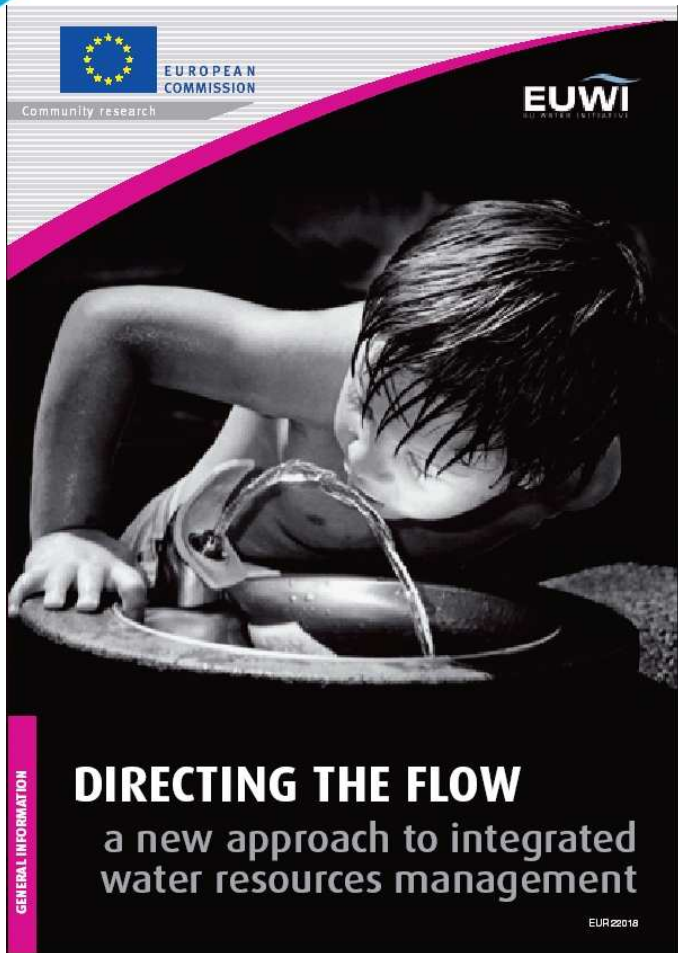
SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Recommendations for FP7 of Review EU-INCO water research from FP4 to FP6



- Promote **constructively engaged research** towards IWRM, including gender awareness
- Align more strongly with **regional priorities and specificities**
- Require research to adopt engaged approaches with explicit attention to **communication** and shortening of **impact** times
- Require research to continue to **connect** different strands of knowledge (local knowledge, socio-economic development, culture, policy, institutions & capacity building).





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

What options for the future ?

- What mechanisms and tools could be put in place to **disseminate** systematically project results and facilitate the **transfer of research results to the policy spheres** at the different institutional levels?
- What mechanisms are effective to **network** single projects with those from other European, national and international projects, EC delegations and development co-operation agencies for critical mass, accountability and impact?
- What options can be considered for **linking and co-ordinating with EUWI regional working groups?**





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Main results from the Stockholm World Water Week 2007

- Knowledge without dissemination is of little use
- Need for a two-way communication (Role for senior researchers that act as government advisors as mediators?)
- Stakeholder involvement as part of the project from start
- Embedding research into political processes – permanent fora/dialogue platforms
- Communication often relies on internet although it is not the best tool (digital divide, language divide, cultural divide)
- Scientists as allies of media – Need for improving communication skills for a wider audience



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Main results from the Stockholm World Water Week 2007

- Project results have a potential to be exploited for training and capacity building in view of a long-lasting impact
- Need for establishing a closer collaboration between research people and cooperation people
- Evidence based solutions can be key in policy making - Need for ad-hoc scientific inputs in policies and for flexible mechanisms of funding.
- Building learning alliances





EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Information

Framework Programme – General

CORDIS Web Site: www.cordis.lu

EU Web Site: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/>

EU research: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/>

Water research in Africa: www.africanwater.net

EU Water Initiative

EUWI web Site: <http://www.euwi.net/>

EUWI Research Web Site:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/water-initiative>

EUWI ERA-NET: <http://www.euwi-era.net>

