

Web site and Knowledge Management Platform of EU Water and EU Energy Initiatives (EUWI – EUEI)

Final report
EuropeAid/ENV/2008/154695/TPS

C. DONDEYNAZ, C. CARMONA-MORENO, P. MAINARDI, M. GIACOMASSI



<http://www.euwi.net>



<http://www.euei.net>

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European Commission
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Institute for Environment and Sustainability

Contact information

Address: Cesar Carmona-Moreno
E-mail: cesar.carmona-moreno@jrc.ec.europa.eu
Tel.: 00 39 0332 785449
Fax: 00 39 0332 789960

<http://ies.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>
<http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

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Acronyms and Definitions

DG	Directorate General
AA	Administrative Arrangement
AIDCO	International Cooperation
CIS	Communication and Information System
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
EUWI	European Union Water Initiative
EUEI	European Union Energy Initiative
GEIS	Global Environment Information System
GEM	Global Environment Monitoring unit
IES	Institute for Environment and Sustainability.
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JRC	Joint Research Centre
MS	European Union Member States
ToR	Terms of Reference

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Introduction

This report deals with the final JRC-IES « Project Reporting » (for the period 29 April 2008 to 31 December 2010) of the EUWI and EUEI platforms refreshment and development in the framework of the Administrative Arrangement num. JRC Ref. 30841-2007-12 NFP ISP signed between DG AIDCO (AIDCO) and DG JRC (JRC).

DG JRC – GEM (H03) unit has been in charge of updating and further development of the EUWI and EUEI websites. These are web-based tools for improving communication and inter-exchange of information among the various stakeholders and working groups of both initiatives while improving transparency and results diffusion through the web: www.euwi.net and www.euei.net

The first part of this report deals with a brief presentation of the project management aspects; and, the second one deals with the technical aspects where the activities and the results obtained during this developing phase are presented.

Background

The EU Water Initiative (EUWI) and the EU Energy Initiative (EUEI) for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development were launched at the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) as a joint commitment by the EU Member States and the European Commission to give priority to the important role of water/sanitation and energy in poverty reduction and the achievement of the MDGs.

The Initiatives aim at raising *political awareness* among high-level decision-makers, encouraging the *coherence and synergy* of activities related to water, sanitation and energy as well as catalysing a more effective use of existing resources and attracting *new resources* (capital, technology, human resources) from the governments, private sector, financial institutions, civil society and end-users. The Initiatives are frameworks for policy dialogue with Partner Countries and other partners, and also for specific actions and partnerships, supported by the Commission and Member States, and developed in close collaboration with Partner Countries.

2. FINAL REPORT

2.1 Project Management

2.1.1 JRC Staff

The JRC has re-implemented both the EUWI.NET and EUEI.NET in support to the communication improvement of EUWI and EUEI Initiatives as specified in the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Administrative Arrangement (AA) EuropeAid/ENV/2008/154695/TPS. Both communication and information systems are being hosted by the DG JRC at the JRC premises in Italy where it is available through the following internet connexions: <http://www.EUWI.net/> and <http://www.EUEI.net>).

Dr. César CARMONA-MORENO is the JRC coordinator of the project implementation and relationships with DG DEV and DG AIDCO.

Ms. Céline DONDEYNAZ was hired as contractual agent from 1st May 2008 to 30 April 2011 as Web-system Manager of both websites. As foreseen, Mr. Paolo MAINARDI was hired as external contract through the Framework Contract No DI/05710 at JRC premises and under the direct supervision of the JRC coordinator. He was in charge of the development (coding) of the EUWI and EUEI websites.

2.1.2 The assignment

The EUWI and EUEI websites should contribute to the following objectives:

- (1) Ensure clear information is available to all about the EUWI and EUEI missions, objectives, organisation and achievements. In the case of the EUEI, this should include the Africa-EU Energy partnership.
- (2) Promote cross-collaboration and synergies between the European Commission and EU Member States in their development policies and programmes. In the case of the EUWI, this should include promoting cross-collaboration and synergies at regional level through EUWI Regional Working Groups.
- (4) Integrate the multiple existing websites related to the Initiatives as required by the EUWI and EUEI Secretariats, and use the specific advantages of online-platforms for information exchange for internal and external use to reinforce the political objectives of the Initiatives.
- (5) Help motivate external parties, including civil society and public and private service providers to participate in the two Initiatives.
- (6) Support EUWI and EUEI multi-stakeholder policy and implementation dialogues at the regional and country-level, where these are requested by partner countries, by closing the communication gap between EC, Delegations, EU MS, EU MS in-country structures, partner countries and other stakeholders.

Even having the same objectives, diverse other outputs were delivered and implemented. For the EU Water Initiative, these tasks have been handled:

- Transfer of the EUWI website from the precedent host system (ADA Servers – Austria) to a new host (DG JRC premises – Italy) without changing the former interface design and without interruptions to access to information or the use of communication channels. Final transfer was achieved on **23th May 2008** ;
- DG JRC was involved in discussions with EUWI Communication contractors and EUWI Secretariat for EUWI website designing. Improvement and refreshment of the former interface design of the EUWI website by new functions that maintain and improve interactive and collaborative use of the website and its resources according to the needs of the EUWI secretariat (**21st December 2008**);
- Regular updates, immediate uploads or removals of information provided or required by the EUWI secretariat and contributions to the editing of the website content as requested by the EUWI secretariat.
- EUWI video was produced by DG JRC according to the EUWI Secretariat Communication directives. This video (available in the EUWI Homepage) was showed in the stand of the World Water Week 2009 and 2010 and is uploaded in the EUWI website. Interviews of several EUWI stakeholders are also available in the EUWI Homepage.
- Several EUWI posters were also produced following the EUWI Secretariat Communication directives in **July 2009** for the World Water Week 2009 and 2010.
- JRC – Water Team participated to the organisation of the EUWI stand during the World Water Week in Stockholm in 2008, 2009 and 2010.
- JRC – Water Team actively participated to the EUWI Multi-Stakeholder forum in 2008, 2009 and 2010.
- A join press release (DGs Development, EuropeAid and JRC) has been published on the EUWI, its multi stakeholder forum and the ACP-EU water facility.

<http://www.euwi.net/news/press-release-world-water-week-2009>.

This page was visited since its publication in the website by more than 3000 people.

- Creation of several material for the EUWI stand exhibition participation (2009-2010)
- To improve the ownership of the website by the partners, a basic training have been strongly suggested several time during the project but not yet done. Indeed, we remind here that the website is based on user content generation, but it's strongly recommended

an editor-journalist to encourage participation and collect information from the different EUWI stakeholders.

For the EU Energy Initiative, the following tasks were handled:

- Re-design and implementation of EUEI website according to discussions with DG DEV-B2 (Energy team in 2008 – Mr Rui COSTA and Mr. Kjell LARSSON). Adjustments to the design and implementation were introduced following discussions with Mr. Rainer HAKALA in 2009.
- Technical assistance for the EUEI website. This technical assistance consisted on the development of new pages, and groups, contents, structures provided by DG DEV or other international partners. The technical assistance implemented updates and upgrades of software versions, checked the website is running in optimal conditions and established technical maintenance of the web pages. In addition, the technical assistance prepared the EUEI website for a subsequent phase of work under a possible future assignment the linkage and/or possible merging of related websites in an interactive and collaborative platform.
- DG JRC created the following internal sub-web sites taking advantage of the flexibility and adaptability of this new web-based technology: **AFRETEP** (public website directly managed by DG JRC-Energy unit) and **ENERGY FACILITY 2** (Internal Commission – non public website for the management of the Energy Facility 2 project proposals).
- The collaborative content management system developed by DG JRC allows users (as the EUEI secretariat members or other authorised partners appointed by the EUEI Secretariat) to easily add content (editing of text provided), pages, documents and other information and to change existing content.
- Although the development of the EUEI website was in charge of the DG-JRC – Water team (in charge of the technical development), EUEI website content management is under the JRC-Energy unit (as experts in energy).

In addition, uninterrupted public access to information from the EUWI and EUEI websites has been maintained as requested.

2.1.3 Implementation and phasing

About EUEI.ORG domain name: Contacts with AEA (owner of EUEI.ORG domain name!) were established on 17 September 2008 (Mr. Gill WILKINS email: Gill.Wilkins@aeat.co.uk) for transferring the ownership to the European Commission. DG JRC requested AEA several times for a formal financial proposal for domain name transfer without success (they increased the price from one discussion to another in an unacceptable way for the Commission). DG JRC as Commission Service finally decided after consultation with DG DEV to buy the following domain names: EUEI.NET, EU-EI.NET, EU-EI.ORG. DG JRC continues in any case to maintain informal contacts for transferring the ownership of the EUEI.ORG domain name.

Both platforms are hosted at the DG JRC premises on JRC website servers.

Responding to these requests, both websites have the following characteristics:

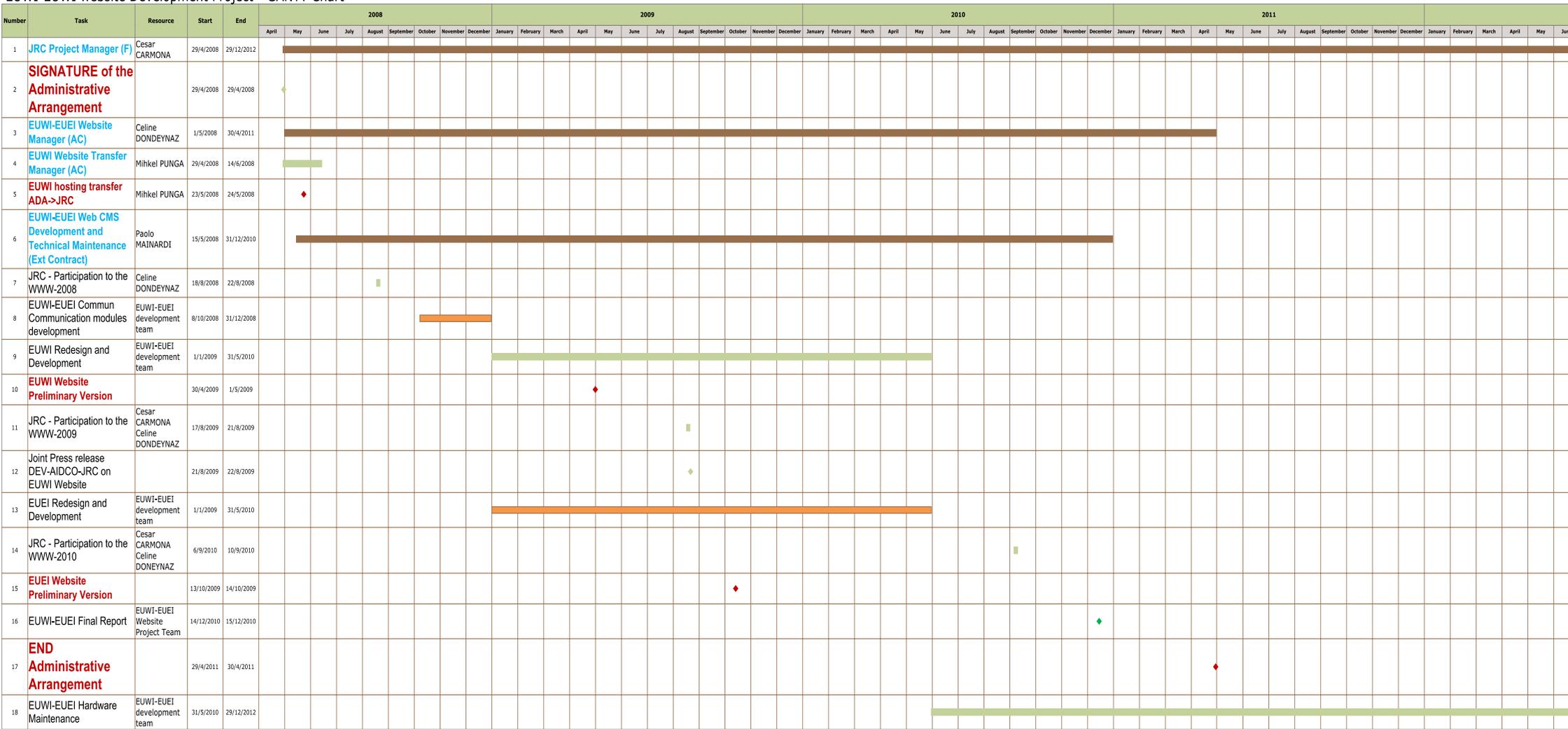
- based on DRUPAL-5, an open source Content Management System which is a high web communication technology widely used and extended in the website community.
- easy to use and update by non expert users with average internet navigation skills.
- all possible kind of multimedia contents are allowed (video, audio, power point presentation, ...).
- easy and intuitive navigability. Every webpage contains different navigation menus according to its content and to the thematic navigation path related with the content.
- Rights are different depending to the user role (administrator, editor, registered user, guest user).
- exportable off-line and the back-up is working at the JRC – Ispra premises.
- easily transportable to different servers with the minimum hardware-software requirements.

The functionalities detailed in the technical report have been successfully implemented.

These improvements follow the principle of user content generation which is central in the website management process. **In fact, thanks to Web 2.0 technologies, users are able to share and update directly contents by themselves without any particular IT skills.** *The great advantage of this technical choice is avoiding bottlenecks due to a centralised management of the content of the web pages.* This also allows gathering more knowledge by sharing tasks among the community members. In addition, it facilitates the caption of informal knowledge (non written or individual knowledge and experience) by online discussion or/and commenting - blog activity (not too much time consuming which is a main constraint in formalisation of informal knowledge).

In conclusion, the implementation of the project and both website developments went efficiently, the costs and delays have been well managed and the technical objectives, as foreseen in the framework of this Administrative Arrangement with AIDCO, are duly achieved.

EUWI-EUWI website Development Project - GANTT Chart



2.2 Technical Report

The Global Environment Management Unit (GEM) at the Institute of Environment and Sustainability (IES) of the JRC has been working on both EUWI and EUEI platform according to the assignment and additional requests from DGs EuropeAid- Development on the development

2.2.1 Technical features implemented for EUWI and EUEI websites

Features linked to user profile

a. Login / Registration

The login scheme combines robustness with ease of use (allowing for example users to save their ID settings on their browser). A mechanism protecting the platform from machine registrations (Gotcha using either non machine readable set of characters or simple questions such as how much is 1+5, or other less invasive strategy like CSS fields hiding).and a mail verification and administrator approval has been implemented.

The registration form incorporates the identification data, fields available in the user profile as well as subscription to newsletters, alerts etc... It is better to adopt a multiple step approach, with a minimum of data required at first to allow the registration to take place, and then, incentives for users to fill in the missing data along the way.

b. User Profile

The user profile module includes personal information such as picture, professional details (institution and organisation), or address (shown through a map graphical interface), network facilities with colleagues and friends and links to events. A presence indicator shows if you are logged in the platform at one time allowing other users to interact with you through mail or internal mailbox. The user profile is initially built through the registration form (with a minimum of compulsory fields to complete the registration) and is further elaborated by the user himself and during the usage of the platform where her/his preferences are recorded (new groups joined, documents shared with his/her working groups, etc). All this information can be public or private depending on the user decision or accessible only for a specific user group (i.e. visible to the specific group I belong to, but not to the rest of the users of the platform).

c. Alerts

Alerts or Notifications are very short messages sent either through the regular SMTP mail of users either internal messaging through the platform to notify users of things they asked to be notified on (op-in exclusively- no spam). They can be requested about :

- Events they have registered for and asked to be reminded of
- New entries, pages or other content according to the criteria they subscribed to be notified on such as specific theme, content type, author, or working group
- Comments received on content they provided (Documents, blog posts, pictures etc)

A new user that joined a group can be notify on members who are located in the same city, have worked in the same institution, share the same interests or will participate in same events etc... (This joins the collaborative tools section below)

The Alert frequency and modality is up to the user (Are available either alerts as things happen or Alert Digests with variable time frequencies).

d. Community /User Right Management

There is an easy function to view and manage users membership status, set their rights and privileges (what they can see, where they can contribute etc) accept / deny membership requests, send invites, send messages to all or selected members, etc. These features are only available for the administrator team or the Working group manager inside the Working group space.

The standard user has access to the full user list of the EUWI- EUEI platforms but has access to a limited information through the profile (institution where the users are working and geographical

location). To contact another member, he can only use the internal mailbox and can follow her/his posting activity on the platform.

Content generation and settings

a. Multimedia player / File reader

All kinds of rich multimedia contents, ranging from video (flash video, Windows format, Real media format, QuickTime etc including streamed feeds), to PowerPoint presentations, Visio and Excel files, word Documents, can be displayed through the platform / web browser as well as equivalent open source formats without the need to possess the Microsoft Office professional suite or all the specific players and codecs installed on the end – user PC. (Flash technology)

b. Access rights and content

Multiple levels of access rights have been set,, including **super administrators** (full rights awarded they can see and delete everything, award or remove access rights to anyone), **group managers** (having all administrator rights but only inside their own group, limited to their own content and members), **registered users** (able to see internal and public content as well as content of groups they belong to), **external users** (able to see public content). Other user group denominations can be used as needed. As requested, all content items (text, video, etc) can be labelled as public (visible to all) and restrained / limited (visible only to members of a specific user group). The users depending on their credentials can have access to more resources than the general public, and to a variable extent depending on which group they belong.

c. Content Quality Control

With an open shared and user contributed system the important point is to have a strong mechanism to ensure that the requirements on the quality of contents are met.

Therefore, there is the possibility for the editor / moderator / administrator of different Groups or specific pages of the Platform to decide on its publishing / content management policy, adopting either:

- An Open System : All registered user input is accepted (only identified and logged-in users – see above in “Access rights” paragraph) by default but is moderated ex-post; meaning that the moderator can remove or relocate entries he considers not appropriate with a message to the Author, or even ban the abusive author from writing on the site.
- A filtered system: where all input is approved both in terms of contents and position on the site by the moderator before it is published (the amended documents or proposed relocation –for example in another section of the site- are discussed and agreed with the Author prior to publishing).

The editor role is very important to ensure overall quality and relevance of the information provided. Up to now, the JRC has handled this task for the EUWI and EUEI, appointment of an editorial skilled person would be a sustainable way to ensure the continuity of this task. He would be responsible for regularly updating the platform with cutting edge and interesting information, either by giving his own writings or bringing in interesting contributions and contributors from outside. He also points out the information he believes is interesting ("editors choice" label) throughout the platform bringing to the surface some interesting ideas or contributions of members on the platform.

A powerful tool for managing moderate contents is available to Editors and Administrators, either in public and group sections in order to approve or deny submitted contents from the communities.

d. FAQ / Tips and Tricks

There is a tool for helping the users to find the Frequently Asked Questions, on pre-defined categories sections with Questions/Answers, giving the users the possibility to comments on answers and increase the quality of the contents.

e. Export Function

All online pages and text based contents existing on the platform can be printed or exported in various formats (PDF, ,Printer Friendly format), mailed or shared with inside or outside users (if the resource is public of course).

Collaborative tools

a. Event Planner/Manager

There is an easy to use module allowing creation of new events with full description, location on a map and directions to the venue (i.e. google maps), and attached documents or files. Each event has permissions restrictions to a specific working group, specific user...The owner of the event as well as the administrator team can in, an easy way, create a list of invitees, send invitations with sign up options and track RSVP, and so, publicizing, and sharing / making the event known (through the platform, by email etc). All events are indexed and searchable, browsable against theme, keywords, location, date range, participants etc.

b. News / Working Group Blog / What's New

The general functionality "What's new" is available on every sub-spaces or content types; meaning for example that you may display on the home page of each group to display the latest news on issues related to the WG interest in the form of a short text with links to attached pieces (text, video, picture, map etc) or even to other sites of interest. There could also be a section where latest contributions are shown, grouping latest internet links shared, latest documents uploaded, latest members joined, latest groups formed, upcoming events ... providing an extra view of "What is new" on the platform.

c. Group Calendars

There is an easy function to create and manage Group calendars based on event submitted in the group by the users or group administrators. It allows the creation of various types / categories of entries and calendar views of specific type of entries at a time: e.g

- Your internal meetings or seminars
- Your public events (conferences or other)
- Events by other organizations on issues of interest to the Group

d. Sharing/Federating resources

This functionality allows the user to share/federate resources such as documents, files, links, pictures gallery, online videos etc. All shared items have the possibility to be tagged both by the author/submitter and any other allowed users (suggested tags too). The keywords identified by users as most accurate for the specific resource, are kept to create relevant results in searches on keywords. All text based files are indexed and full-text searchable. Usage of resources is tracked allowing statistics and top 10 lists to be generated (what are the resources most used, what was latest addition, who are adding most of the stuff, etc).In addition, a tag-cloud assists the navigation by keywords through the content while showing the importance and weight of these various themes / keys.

e. RSS Feeds

On one hand, RSS feeds should be made available on the most dynamic parts of the site and users (Alerts) In combination with alerts they help delivering content on issues the user has decided to follow, directly to him without having to look for it across the different sections of platform.

On the other hand, RSS feeds allow any people on the web to follow the activity of parts of the platform, via a RSS feed reader (my yahoo, google, live bookmark...).

f. Commenting tool

Commenting tool includes a tool collecting comments on a whole document or any content types. It can serve multiple purposes: One of these is the collaborative drafting of documents with contributions from multiple stakeholders. Another is to collect and share comments and opinions from stakeholders on a policy document (without modifying them) helping the drafting exercise of a document that realistically expresses consensus in an organisation.

g. Discussion Forums

Working groups have access to discussion tools to facilitate deliberation on specific issues in structured and timely manner. The discussions should have a clear objective to achieve, a deadline a moderator / reporter that summarizes the discussion and publicizes it, either for the specific group or for all the users to see.

Complementary functions

a. Graphic Design, User Interface, Ergonomics

The platform is user friendly, use intuitive interfaces and ease to use / ergonomics. In terms of graphic design (images, buttons, colours, menus, transitions etc) even if can still be improved, new graphic layouts were implemented, the platform is enjoyable to use and an attractive thus powerful work tool.

b. Geo Location –and Google Maps Mash-ups, Data navigation tools

Maps are used to represent the geographical distribution of projects, users, or to locate activities, organisations etc. Any development of geographical information has taken into account existing tools (Google Maps).

c. Search

The search feature is of crucial importance to the functioning of the platforms as an efficient and effective knowledge sharing system. In concrete, it includes both simple search (one empty box) and more advanced searches allowing searching for specific type of resources, date ranges, submitted by specific authors etc. A combination between the simple and advanced search from Drupal has been implemented to allow an accurate search inside the platform. For the EUWI, the advanced search uses Solr based also tag indexing but with an advanced filtering.

The specific search feature for "people search" has been developed (like in www.linkedin.com) to allow for users that look for people regarding various criteria: specific skills, organisations or working locations, The results are based on the profiles filled in by the users themselves.

d. Multiple languages

The user interface is in English and as well as the major part of contents. However the user interface is available in various versions to cover, up to now, essential working languages (EN, FR, ES). The system keeps open the possibility to easily add more languages if necessary.

e. Statistics

A module takes in charge the log track by providing statistics to have regular and accurate information on the usage of each platforms revealing issues or patterns that were unexpected, facilitating thus a fine-tuning to achieve maximum results.

This produces relevant lists of content for users to access, like top 10 lists (what are the resources most used, what keywords are used more often (tag-clouds) etc), or present the overview of the Platform to newcomers (e.g. we have 1000 registered users, 25 groups, 500 blog posts, 200 documents uploaded, 49 videos etc...)

A complementary track using Google analytics is implemented on the EUWI providing even more sophisticated system: i) creating heat maps of EUWI pages depending on the number of clicks specific areas get, ii) helping to reorganise content in pages to match usage patterns for best results and information accessibility.

f. Security / Trust / Confidentiality

The platform robustness need to be secured, preventing to the maximum hacking, unauthorised access to information and data, identity theft etc, without compromising its ease of use and user friendliness. In case of such an event, measures have been taken so that the service is restored in very short time and back-ups are kept to avoid data loss. As the platform can become a central information and communication tool for groups and projects / actions it is needed that uptime and security are optimal to build trust in the platform. Confidentiality is also be secured as sensitive documents may be posted online, or confidential information exchanged among members. Furthermore, the system traces any security / confidentiality breach through a security report allowing a rapid fixing. The security will be managed both in the application platform and in the operating system layer with the appropriate security rules.

g. Disclaimers

Following the standards of the European Commission, legal disclaimers are provided where necessary making clear that opinions expressed engage only the individuals and not the Commission, unless stated otherwise.

3. CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES

The EU Water and Energy Knowledge Management Platforms, respectively www.euwi.net, www.euei.net, have been developed by the JRC in the framework of an Administrative Arrangement with the DG AIDCO (EuropeAid/ENV/2007/147693/TPS). Both platforms are installed in the JRC web-servers and will be kept on-line as such until December 2012. No active maintenance (no new developments, no code implementation, no hardware/software maintenance, and/or no debugging activities) is foreseen after 1st January 2011.

Because of the JRC preliminary conception efforts, the EUWI – EUEI core system was designed in a modular way. For this reason, these web-based information systems can easily be maintained, up-graded and up-dated at a minor cost.

The core system was thought as re-usable and therefore EUEI – EUWI websites from a system point of view can be considered as different thematic versions of a core system. Taking advantage of this scale economy, this allowed, as foreseen in the Administrative Arrangement, the development of two high performances and updated web-based collaborative systems at a minor cost both in time and from a human resources point of view.

In details, the use of this system allows in a general way a specialized community to easily work in a virtual network. EUWI/EUEI members can share information, data, documents, news, special events, meetings, establish e-conferences in a dynamic manner in order to improve the communication in the thematic community. Members do not pre-require any specific web or computer skills for managing and up-dating EUWI/EUEI web-sites from a thematic point of view (content management). These platforms also offer more visibility through web dissemination of the activities, results of the EU initiatives and thus facilitate involvement of additional members willing to contribute to these initiatives.

Being user-friendly and operational, two main remarks should be mentioned on further development and improvement: i) Even if users can easily introduce and post comments to documents, information and data online, particular efforts should be done on the development of interactive and more user-friendly shared commenting tools in a dynamic way; ii) the intervention of an expert editor (expert journalist profile in both domains (Energy and Water) – 20% - collecting information for the websites) is particularly important to up-date the webpage contents with fresh information and stimulate the interaction among user members and working groups. A clear example of this, it is the EUWI website, with more than 40000 visits a year (~2500 visits per month!). These statistics can be considered of high standard and visibility of the EUWI information and activities (see Annex “EUWI traffic statistics” for further information) compared with similar thematic websites. These statistics clearly show that external users in the domain have an easy access to the information.

Even if traffic can be considered good enough taking into account the domain of specialization of both websites (currently information and communication is addressed to specialists in Energy and Water in Developing Countries), feeding the websites with fresh and regular information will contribute to significantly increase the traffic and visits.

From the experience of the JRC on the management of website information at the Commission, JRC strongly suggests:

- 1) the contribution of expert editors (one at least per domain) in both thematic domains collecting and producing first hand information from the working groups and users of the websites;
- 2) improving the user-friendliness of the website (for posting information and accessing) according to a clear communication strategy (to whom the information should be addressed).

ANNEXE 1. WEBSITE STRUCTURES

1.- EUWI website

Home page

EUWI
EU WATER INITIATIVE

SEARCH Enter the terms you wish to search for.

ABOUT EUWI COMMUNITIES EUWI & POLICY NEWS & EVENTS LIBRARY

European Water Initiative
Focusing on water to protect our environment and improve lives and livelihoods.

USER LOGIN
Username: *
Password: *
 Remember me
Log in
▶ Create new account
▶ Request new password

IN THE FOCUS [more »](#)

Strategic Financial Planning for water supply and sanitation in Africa 2010
Submitted by Alan William Hall on 01-June-2010.

EUWI Annual Report 2010
Submitted by Maria Mnk on 30-August-2010.

NEWS [more »](#)

EU Water Initiative Multi-Stakeholder Forum 2010
Submitted by Maria Mnk on 19-August-2010 - 0 Comments | 1 files | 649 reads
The annual EU Water Initiative Multi-Stakeholder Forum will take place during the World Water Week! Date and place: **Thursday 9th September 9.00-12.30, room T6 at Alvsjömässan, Stockholm**
At the forum you will hear about the latest achievements of the EUWI, but also be able to take part in round table discussions on the strategic choices and future priorities of the Initiative!
Attached is a detailed programme and we hope to see you there!...

MEDIA ROOM

What is new with ANEW? EUWI meets Prof Kairu, from ANEW
"The EUWI grant has allowed ANEW to bring together hundreds of representatives from African civil society to discuss critical water and ... [Read more](#)

EUWI meets Mr Borkey, responsible for the water supply and sanitation programme of the OECD
At Stockholm Water Week 2009-08-20, EUWI meets Mr Peter Börkey, responsible for the water supply and sanitation programme of the OECD: Organisation ... [Read more](#)

EUWI meets Dr. Emad Adly, from AOYE: Arab Office for Youth and Environment
At Stockholm Water Week 2009-08-20, EUWI meets Dr. Emad Adly, from AOYE: Arab Office for Youth and Environment Dr. Emad Adly, you are both ... [Read more](#)

Press Release - World Water Week 2009
The EUWI multi-stakeholder forum (from left to right, Prof. Edward Kairu, ANEW; Mr Bai-Mass Taal, African Minister Council of Water Executive ... [Read more](#)

WHAT WE WORK FOR?

WHAT'S NEW?

- ▶ EUWI Annual Report 2010
- ▶ Annual Financial report 2009
- ▶ Challenge and Opportunities for financing transboundary Water Resources management and development in Africa

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EUWI WORKING GROUPS

GEOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Africa
The African Working group is ineres led in Water supply and Sanitation and Integrated Water Management Issues in the African area

manager: [Thomas Zippor](#) members: 162

[Request membership](#)

Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
The working group is concerned with water supply and sanitation as well as IRWM in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

manager: [Gheorghe Constantin](#) members: 196

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Latin America Water Supply and Sanitation
Regional component responsible for WSS&S and IRWM in Latine America

manager: [Mouel ANTOIN](#) members: 77

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Mediterranean
Regional component responsible for WSS&S and IRWM in mediterranean countries

manager: [Maria Penco](#) members: 55

[Request membership](#)

THEMATIC GROUPS

Finance Working Group (FWG)
This group has representatives from the public, private and civil society and is focused on providing instruments for strategic financial planning.

manager: [Alan William Hall](#) members: 77

[Request membership](#)

Multi-stakeholder Forum
The MUI- Stakeholders FORUM is the advisory body of the EUWI

manager: [Andie Liebaert](#) members: 272

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Research
Horizontal component dealing with the contribution of knowledge and research to the water- development process.

manager: [Anne f. Blenkinsop](#) members: 49

[Request membership](#)

INSTITUTIONAL GROUPS

Coordination Group
The coordination group is an European Union Forum

manager: [Maria Vink](#) members: 119

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Submitted by [Maria Vink](#) on 30-August-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [1 files](#) | 229 reads

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Submitted by [Alan William Hall](#) on 11-June-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [1 files](#) | 438 reads

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[CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FINANCING TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA](#)

Submitted by [Alan William Hall](#) on 11-June-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [1 files](#) | 443 reads

By EUWI finance group and SIWI May 2010

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[STRATEGIC FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION IN AFRICA 2010](#)

Submitted by [Alan William Hall](#) on 01-June-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [1 files](#) | 746 reads

May 2010 - By Euwi Finance Group

Table of Content

1. Strategic Financial Planning for water supply and sanitation in Africa 1.1. Strategic Financial Planning in a nutshell 1.2. The funding challenge for WSS 1.3. Overview of African WSS financing status and problems
2. Sources of finance for WSS: the 3Ts 2.1. The 3Ts and repayable sources 2.2. Specific risks of WSS
3. Strategic Financial Planning for WSS 3.1. Objectives of SFP 3.2. Essential elements of SFP 3.3. Outcomes of SFP

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201 [Environmental International Forum SAVE the Planet - Waste & Water Management, Recycling](#)
Environmental International Forum SAVE the Planet - Waste & Water Management, Recycling 13-15 April 2011, Sofia, Bulgaria, Organizer Via ...

201 [7th EE & RES Congress and Exhibition for South-East Europe. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources](#)
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[EUWI MULTISTAKEHOLDER FORUM 2010 AT THE WORLD WATER WEEK](#)

Submitted by [Celine Dondéynaz](#) on 20-August-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [0 file](#) | 104 reads

The annual EU Water Initiative Multi-Stakeholder Forum will take place during the World Water Week! Date and place: Thursday 9th September 9.00-12.30, room T6 at Älvsjömassan, Stockholm

[UN LAUNCHES DECADE-LONG DRIVE TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION](#)

Submitted by [Celine Dondéynaz](#) on 18-August-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [0 file](#) | 64 reads

16 August 2010 – The United Nations today unveiled a decade-long push to raise awareness and mobilize action to fight desertification, which threatens the livelihoods of more than 1 billion people in 100 countries.

[EU TO REALIGN DEVELOPMENT AID TOWARDS WATER](#)

Submitted by [Maria Vink](#) on 05-March-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [0 file](#) | 1222 reads

Published in euroactiv.com, on the 1st March 2010

With the UN Millennium Development Goals set to be reviewed this year, the European Commission is stressing the need for an increased focus on access to water, as the achievement of other UN development goals depends on it.

[SPLASH RESEARCH CALL ON SUSTAINABLE SANITATION SERVICE CHAINS](#)

Submitted by [Celine Dondéynaz](#) on 09-February-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [0 file](#) | 752 reads

The European Union Water Initiative European Research Area Network Pre-Announcement SPLASH research call on sustainable sanitation service chains

SPLASH, the ERA-NET of the European Water Initiative will launch a research call on 1st March, 2010. The overall call budget will be approx. 1.7 Mio Euro. The call will be funded by the following donors:

[NEW ACP-EU WATER FACILITY](#)

Submitted by [Celine Dondéynaz](#) on 05-February-2010 - [0 Comments](#) | [0 file](#) | 583 reads

2. EUEI website

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EUEI related activities

- [EUEI Partnership Dialogue Facility - EUEI-PDF](#)
- [ACP - European Union Energy Facility - ACP-EU EF](#)
- [Africa- EU Partnership](#)
- [Africa-EU Infrastructure Trust Fund](#)
- [Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund -GEEREF](#)

European Union Energy Initiative

contributes to provide the access to energy necessary for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.



News

[The First High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership](#)

First High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership: 14/15 September 2010 at the Vienna Hofburg in Austria Due to the volcanic activities in Iceland and the resulting closure of airspaces ...

In the focus



[News on the 2nd Call of ACP-EU Energy Facility](#)

Submitted on 14-January-2010.



[Latest developments in the Africa-Eu Energy Partnership](#)

Submitted on 14-January-2010.

Useful links

- [Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition \(JREC\)](#)
- [New Partnership for Africa 's Development \(NEPAD\)](#)
- [Global Village Energy Partnership](#)
- [The Global Network on Energy for Sustainable Development \(GNESD\)](#)
- [The Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Partnership \(REEEP\)](#)
- [Global Forum on Sustainable Energy \(GFSE\)](#)
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- [World Bank Energy Assistance Management Assistance Program - ESMAP](#)
- [UN - Energy](#)
- [Africa Infrastructure Country Diagnostic](#)
- [Infrastructure Consortium for Africa \(ICA\)](#)
- [EUEI-UNEP Capacity Enhancement and Mobilisation Action for Energy in Africa \(CEMA\)](#)
- [Photovoltaic Geographical Information System - Interactive Maps](#)
- [JRC Website – RE unit](#)

Events



[World Renewable Energy Congress XI and Exhibition 2010](#)

1 day



[FORUM EURAFRIC- PARTNERS, WATER AND ENERGY IN AFRICA](#)

24 days

At the 9th WREC Congress in Florence, Italy held in September 2006 the Council of WREC/WREN voted to hold the World Renewable Energy Congress XI in Abu Dhabi, ...

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AFRETEP: integrating support tools for a sustainable energy development in Africa <small>new</small>	AFRETEP Remote areas Renewable energy resources Rural electrification	Presentation	irenepinedo		09/23/2010 - 16:43
Global Trends in Sustainable Energy Investment - 2010 Report <small>new</small>	Renewable energy Sustainable development	Report	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	08/29/2010 - 00:03
Renewables 2010 - Global Status Report <small>new</small>	Renewable energy	Report	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	08/29/2010 - 00:00
Scaling up Renewable Energy in Developing Countries	Renewable energy Sustainable development	Report	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	06/30/2010 - 13:20
Adaptation to Climate Change: A Vulnerability Assessment for Sudan	Climate change	Report	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	06/25/2010 - 09:32
Energy for Livelihoods: Putting people back into Africa's woodfuel crisis	Bioenergy	Report	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	06/25/2010 - 09:29
Biofuels: making tough choices	Bioenergy Sustainable development	Briefing	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	06/25/2010 - 09:25
Access to Sustainable Energy: What role for international oil and gas companies? Focus on Nigeria	Sustainable development	Report	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	06/25/2010 - 09:21
EU-Africa smart grids	Renewable energy Solar Energy	Article	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	06/25/2010 - 07:56
AFRETEP First Meeting May/June 2010 Presentations <small>new</small>	AFRETEP	Presentation	airbaza	African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP	06/04/2010 - 10:48

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News and Events

Regional Forum on the ECOWAS Solar Energy Initiative (ESEI)

Submitted by [irenepinedo](#) on 23-September-2010

The 38th Summit of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS endorsed a special resolution on the establishment of the ECOWAS Solar Energy Initiative (ESEI) and the ECOWAS Solar Commis

[African area](#) [English](#)

Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference (DIREC 2010)

Submitted by [girbaza](#) on 28-August-2010

<

[English](#) [International conference](#)

First High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership

Submitted by [celina_JRC](#) on 05-August-2010

The Co-Chairs of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership are:

[African area](#) [English](#)

The First High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership

Submitted by [celina_JRC](#) on 05-August-2010

First High Level Meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership: 14/15 September 2010 at the Vienna Hofburg in AustriaDue to the volcanic activities in Iceland and the result

[English](#)

FORUM EURAFRIC-PARTNERS, WATER AND ENERGY IN AFRICA

Submitted by [girbaza](#) on 07-July-2010

[African area](#) [English](#) [International conference](#)

Energy Facility Call for Proposals – Outcome of Concept Notes Evaluation Stage

Submitted by [girbaza](#) on 25-June-2010

For more information. please. [click here.](#)

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African Renewable Energy Technology Platform, AFRETEP



The African Renewable Energy Technology Platform (AFRETEP) aims at building a network of African research institutions dealing with renewable energy.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The AFRETEP is one of the activities foreseen within the project "Scientific and Technical Support to Sustainable Energy Development in Africa: Rural Electrification, Renewable Energy and Communication". It is a three years project funded by the European Commission. The overall objective of this project is to contribute to understand the potential for renewable energy options in Africa for increased access to electrification in rural areas.

Highlighted documents

[A review of energy in Rwanda](#)

Abstract: During the last two decades, Rwanda has experienced an energy crisis mostly due to lack of investment in the energy sector. With the growing of the population and increasing industrialization in urban areas, energy provided by existing hydro and thermal power plants has been ...

Latest documents

[AFRETEP First Meeting May/June 2010 Presentations](#)

Last 31st May and 1st June 2010, the first Meeting of the African Renewable Energy Technology Platform (AFRETEP) was held at the European Commission - Joint Research Centre located in Ispra (Italy). ...

[Global Trends in Sustainable Energy Investment - 2010 Report](#)

Global Trends in Sustainable Energy Investment 2010 Report UNEP SEFI and Bloomberg New Energy Finance are pleased to release this year's Global Trends in Sustainable Energy ...

[Renewables 2010 - Global Status Report](#)

Global Renewable Capacity Continues to Grow in 2009. Fueled by Policy and Ongoing Investment Paris, 15 July 2010: REN21 is pleased to release ...

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Group events

 **World Renewable Energy Congress XI and Exhibition 2010**

At the 9th WREC Congress in Florence, Italy held in September 2008 the Council of WREC/WREN voted to hold the World Renewable Energy Congress XI in Abu Dhabi, ...

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ADEA (Agency for the development of enterprises in Africa) organises the annual EURAFRIC-PARTNERS Forum in Lyon (France) Congress Centre from 18th to 21st of ...

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ERA, the international renewable energy Tamarrasset is a place for meetings and a trade fair where innovations, exchanges and solutions come together in a ...

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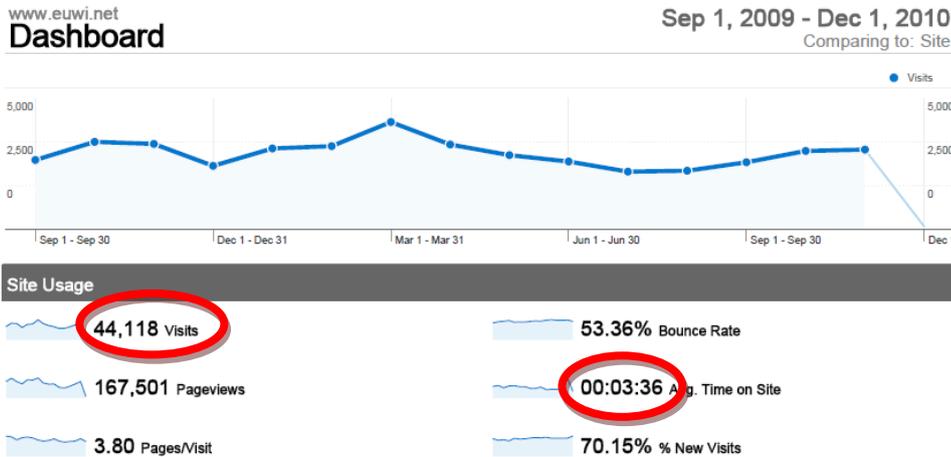
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European Commission - Joint Research Centre
Via F. Fermi 2749

ANNEXE 2. EUWI TRAFFIC STATISTICS



Over the last year EUWI was visited more than **40 000 visits**, meaning around **2500 visits a month** average. The information read is mainly News, Events and the documents from the library and groups pages. (see figures below).

From these visit statistics, the EUWI website can be considered having a good standard compared with other equivalent thematic websites, however traffic could be significantly increased through more contributions from EUWI potential contributors. Short trainings for manager group taking advantage of EUWI regular meetings could heavily increase the contributions and the interest for the EUWI website and activities.

News Events

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PRESS RELEASE - WORLD WATER WEEK 2009

Submitted by [Maria Vink](#) on 26-August-2009 - 0 Comments | [3 files](#) | 3047 reads

The EUWI multi-stakeholder forum (from left to right, Prof. Edoardo Uggiani, IREW; Mr Bai-Mass Taal, African Minister Council of Water Executive Secretary (AMCOW); Mr Anders Berntell, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI); Mr Antonio Garcia Fraglio, Head of Unit, European Commission; Mr Gagik Khachatryan, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee of Water System from the Armenian Ministry of Territorial Administration.

NEW EUWI LEAFLETS

Submitted by [Maria Vink](#) on 12-August-2009 - 0 Comments | [1 file](#) | 2376 reads

EUWI objectives in some leaflets :

THE EUWI MULTISTAKEHOLDER FORUM

Submitted by [Maria Vink](#) on 12-June-2009 - 0 Comments | [3 files](#) | 1499 reads

WORLD WATER WEEK - Stockholm - August 09The annual EUWI MSF takes place in Stockholm on the 20th August, during the World Water Week. At the MSF the results of the EUWI is presented and participants are invited to discuss its strategic choices.

News Events

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EU WATER INITIATIVE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM 2010

Submitted by [Maria Vink](#) on 19-August-2010 - 0 Comments | [2 files](#) | 2906 reads

The annual EU Water Initiative Multi-Stakeholder Forum took place during last World Water Week! Date and place:Thursday 9th September 9.00-12.30, room T6 at Älvsjömässan, Stockholm

2ND AFRICAN WATER WEEK -AWW-2

Submitted by [Celine Dondégnaz](#) on 27-August-2009 - 0 Comments | [0 files](#) | 2464 reads

Johannesburg, South Africa, 09-13 November 2009

EUR 24664 EN– Joint Research Centre – Institute for Environment and Sustainability

Title: Web site and Knowledge Management Platform of EU Water and EU Energy Initiatives (EUWI – EUEI)

Author(s): C. CARMONA-MORENO, C. DONDEYNAZ, M. GIACOMASSI, P. MAINARDI

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

2010 – 26 pp. – 21 x 29.7 cm

EUR – Scientific and Technical Research series – ISSN 1018-5593

ISBN 978-92-79-18930-2

doi:10.2788/84712

Abstract

The EU Water and Energy Knowledge Management Platforms, respectively www.euwi.net, www.euei.net, have been developed by the JRC in the framework of an Administrative Arrangement with the DG AIDCO (EuropeAid/ENV/2007/147693/TPS). Both platforms are installed in the JRC web-servers and will be kept on-line as such until December 2012. No active maintenance (no new developments, no code implementation, no hardware/software maintenance, and/or no debugging activities) is foreseen after 1st January 2011.

Because of the JRC preliminary conception efforts, the EUWI – EUEI core system was designed in a modular way. For this reason, these web-based information systems can easily be up-graded and up-dated at a minor cost.

The core system was thought as re-usable and therefore EUEI – EUWI websites from a system point of view can be considered as different thematic versions of a core system. Taking advantage of this scale economy, this allowed, as foreseen in the Administrative Arrangement, the development of two high performances and updated web-based systems at a minor cost both in time and human resources point of view.

In details, the use of this system allows in a general way a specialized community to work in a virtual network. EUWI/EUEI members can share information, data, documents, news, special events, meetings, establish e-conferences in a dynamic manner in order to improve the communication in the thematic community. Members do not pre-require any web or computer skills for managing and up-dating EUWI/EUEI web-sites. These platforms also offer more visibility through web dissemination of the activities, results of the EU initiatives and thus facilitate involvement of additional members willing to contribute to these initiatives.

Being user-friendly and operational, two main remarks should be mentioned on further development and improvement: i) Even if users can easily introduce comments to documents and data online, particular efforts should be done on the development of interactive shared comment tools in a dynamic way; ii) the intervention of an expert editor (journalist profile – 20% - collecting information for the websites) is particularly important to up-date the webpage contents with fresh information and stimulate the interaction among user members and working groups.

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