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GSI team working on WE@EU



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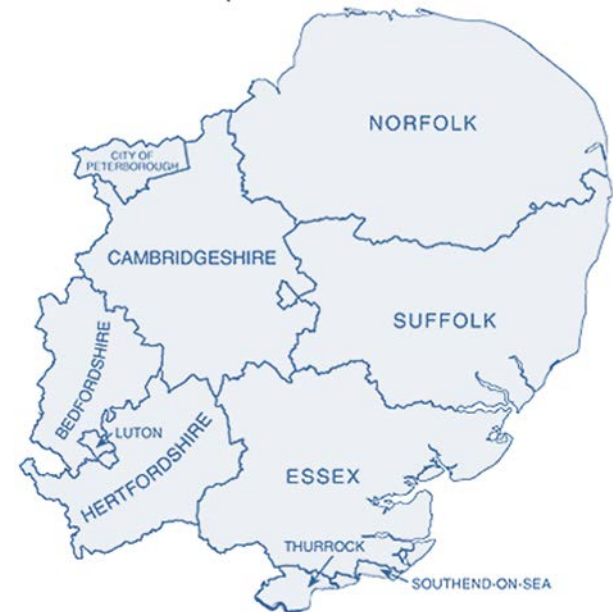
The Water Cluster

East of England Regional Cluster

Re launched in April 2015

Over 75 members:

Attracted regional, national and **international** membership





The Water Cluster

Overview

- Create a platform that promotes research and innovation in the regional, national and international water sector
- Encourage collaboration across our network and wider organisations
- Raise awareness of the East of England as one of the most water stressed regions in the UK
- Support members to enter international markets



Water Connect 2015

177 registered attendees

30 International delegates from Israel, Malta, France, Norway and Spain

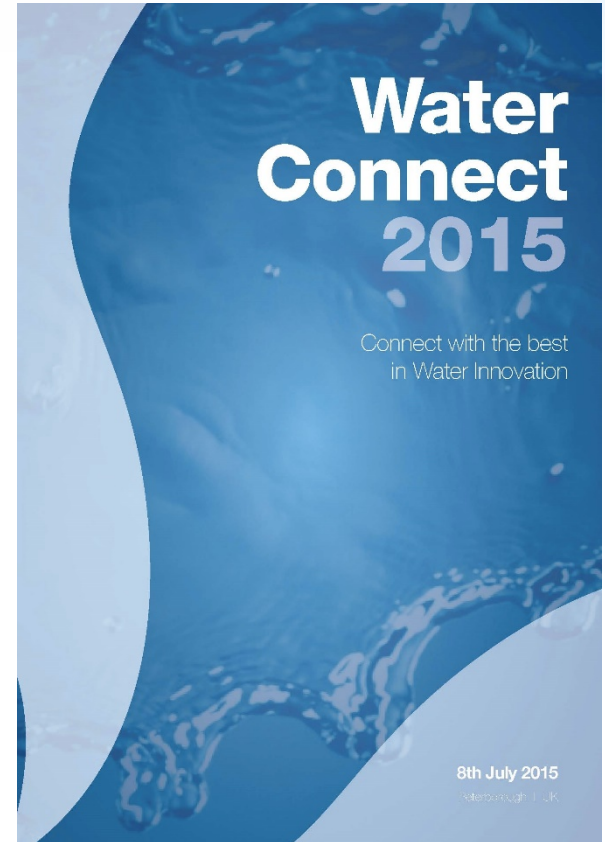
3 Interactive workshops

20 Technology exhibitors and demonstrators



Water Connect 2015 – key messages from delegates:

- Policymakers need to be more engaged in promoting changing attitudes to water (its economic, social and environmental value);
- Global water sector is fragmented and the UK sector is becoming less competitive;
- There is a growing need for new innovation within the water sector, capable of supporting the transition towards a circular economy;
- A unified voice for the industry is required
- More effort needs to be undertaken to encourage water innovation.





The Water Cluster

Future Collaborative Opportunities November 2015

- *Water Cluster re-launch event*
- *30 members from across the East of England and wider UK*
- *2 interactive workshops with an international focus*



Future Collaborative Opportunities: key messages from delegates:

- A single voice is required for the water industry, too many entities with the same message exist.
- Current project costs are too high for SME's to enter European Market. SME's desire more incentives and access to funding opportunities
- All clusters need to notify members of ICA's and the opportunities that they can present.
- Networking and facilitation opportunities must increase, EU funding was seen as a barrier by delegates.

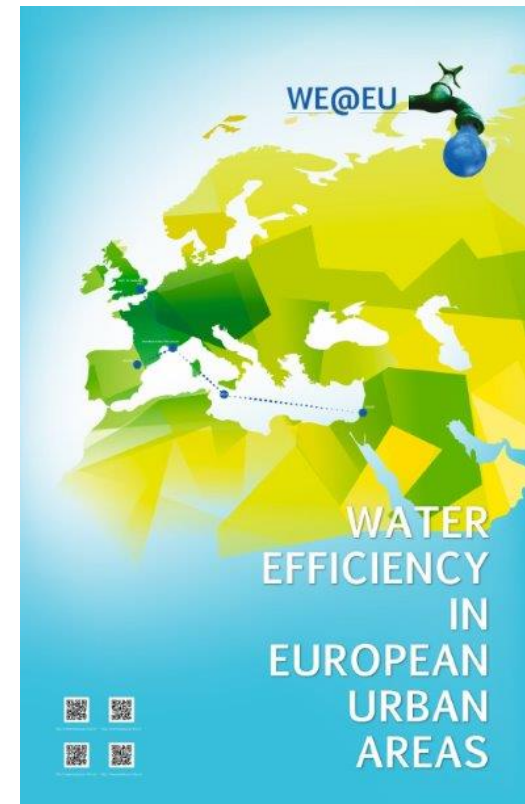


International Cooperation Agreements

WE@EU: Work Package 5

Task 5.4: The signing of **two** International Cooperation Agreements:

1. Should represent a roadmap of joint activities in science and technology and innovation in the topics identified as common interest areas.
2. Aspects: staff exchanges, organisation of coordinated teaching and training activities, collaboration in R&D lines and project proposals, organization of international events, and others.
3. Basis of project continuation post WE@EU



International Cooperation Agreement: The Nevada Center of Excellence/Waterstart



- Signed in November 2015 following attendance of a British Water Event
- US Government funded Water Research Center
- Request for Information (RFI) circulated
- Access to site sites in Nevada and a grant of \$250,000 available

International Cooperation Agreement: Centro de Competencias del Agua, Peru



- Signed in June 2015
- Not for Profit organisation recognising that ensuring access to safe water supply is essential for the competitiveness of key economic sectors in Peru
- Contains prestigious Peruvian research companies and institutes
- International Trade mission talks ongoing

Potential International Collaborations through dialogue

- Beijing Municipal Government, China
- Little Rock, Kansas, USA
- Columbia
- Iran
- Kazakhstan

