

## European Federation of Geologists

### GEO NEWS August 2006

This Issue contains:

- Info and news from European Legislation Process concerning the working groups:
  - 1.ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**
  - 2.GEOTHERMAL ENERGY AND CO2 SEQUESTRATION**
  - 3.NATURAL HAZARDS AND CLIMATE VARIATION**
  - 4.HYDROGEOLOGY**
  - 5.RESOURCE AND RESERVES: MINERALS**
  - 6.JOB OPPORTUNITIES**
- More information about events is available on EFG website:  
[http://www.eurogeologists.de/events\\_june\\_2006.HTM](http://www.eurogeologists.de/events_june_2006.HTM)

#### **1.ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Recent European Strategy on Sustainable Use of Natural Resources:

Thematic Strategy on the sustainable use of natural resources /COM/2005/0670 final: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52005DC0670:EN:NOT> Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee on the 'Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament and the European Economic and Social Committee on the Integration of Environmental Aspects into European Standardisation' COM(2004) 130. This document includes the final **Strategy and Environmental Impact**. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52004AE1208:EN:NOT>

#### **Related to WASTE**

**Landfill**, [Council Directive 99/31/EC](#), the objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.

**Mining**, Directive 2006/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the management of waste from the extractive industries. <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/mining/index.htm>

#### **2.GEOTHERMAL ENERGY AND CO2 SEQUESTRATION**

The General Affairs Council proposed the allocation of 220 million for an **ACP-EC Energy Facility**. This is the most important single allocation ever granted by the EU for energy projects. The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002 recognised the important role of energy for reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Confirming its commitment to the achievements of the MDGs, at the WSSD, the European Union launched the **EU Energy Initiative for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Energy (EUEI)**.

The ACP-EC Energy Facility has divided its co-financing actions into three components (project types) to achieve the MDGs, in particular the goal on poverty, through increased access to energy services by the poor rural population.

The project types are:

- 1. Increased access to energy services in rural areas.
- 2. Improving energy management and governance.
- 3. Improve Cross Border cooperation in the energy Sector.

For a full description of the above components and indicative examples of activities please refer to the Guidelines of the Call for Proposals which can be found at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

Home Page: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/energy/timeline\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/energy/timeline_en.htm)

Call for Proposals - closes 19 September 2006

Call for proposals - opens 19 June 2006

### 3.NATURAL HAZARDS AND CLIMATE VARIATION

**EU Flood Action Programme.** This is to update you on recent developments on the EU Flood Action Programme.

1. Legislative instrument (EU Floods Directive, Commission Proposal of 20 January 2006). The European Parliament finalised the 1st reading of the EU Floods Directive (vote in Plenary Session on 13 June 2006); the text of the adopted amendments is available on the Internet site of the European Parliament at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2006-0253+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>. The Council of the European Union adopted a Political Agreement for a Council Common Position on 27 June 2006.

2. EU Funding Instruments. EU funding instruments (Commission Proposals of 14 July 2004; full texts available on the Internet site of the European Commission at [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docoffic/official/regulation/newregl0713\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/regulation/newregl0713_en.htm) On two of the proposed Regulations, the Regulation for the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and on the Regulation for European Grouping of cross-border co-operation (EGCC), the Council adopted the Council Common Position on 12 June 2006; the texts are available on the Internet site of the European Commission at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail\\_dossier\\_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=191554](http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=191554) and

[http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail\\_dossier\\_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=191555](http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=191555) respectively.

A handbook "Making the Structural and Cohesion Funds Water Positive" (elaborated by the European Network of Environmental Authorities (ENEA)) was published by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 2006, ISBN 92-79-00767-X, © European Communities, and is available on the Internet site of DG Environment

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/pdf/final\\_handbook.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/pdf/final_handbook.pdf)

3. European Flood Alert System (EFAS) - a European Commission initiative to increase preparedness for riverine floods across Europe. Updated information is available at <http://efas.jrc.it/>

**Civil Protection. Civil Protection Mechanism. Consultation. Consideration of a draft report.** The recasting complements the Rapid Response and Preparedness Instrument, which provides the legal basis for the financing of the civil protection actions. Deadline for amendment: 26 June Adoption in ENVI Committee: 13-14 September, Adoption in Plenary: October.

### 4.HYDROGEOLOGY

**Low cost water test for developing countries a preparatory study (AQUATEST).** The AQUATEST kick-off meeting took place on 11-12 July in OXAM, Oxford, UK. This project is a preparatory study for the development of a low-cost water quality test and associated management systems for use in developing countries and in disasters/emergencies. In addition, following major disasters such as hurricanes or earthquakes, many deaths result not from the disaster itself but from subsequent outbreaks of disease caused by contaminated drinking water. This network will meet with stakeholders at the World Water Congress in Beijing to consider how these needs may be addressed. The project will establish how an appropriate water test can be developed from existing technologies within the near term. This project is expected to contribute to the implementation of the EU Water Initiative. For more information please contact Mr Stephen Gundry, University of Bristol: e-mail: [stephen.gundry@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:stephen.gundry@bristol.ac.uk)

**The Water Supply and Sanitation Platform - State of play.** The Water Supply and Sanitation Platforms identified 6 pilot themes as a way to implement the Strategic Research Agenda and to tackle the 4 major challenges for global sustainable water management for Europe highlighted in the Vision document. The pilot themes are all articulated around the concept of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) framework and have significant potential for applications to the third world contributing therefore to the worldwide Millennium Development Goals.

The 6 pilot themes are as follows:

- Pilot 1: Mitigation of water stress in coastal zones
- Pilot 2: Sustainable water management inside and around large urban areas
- Pilot 3: Sustainable water management for agriculture
- Pilot 4: Sustainable water management for industry
- Pilot 5: Reclamation of degraded water zones (surface and ground)
- Pilot 6: Proactive and corrective management of extreme hydro-climatic events

For more information see [www.wsstp.org](http://www.wsstp.org)

#### **PUBLICATIONS AND AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

- **Water Management In Arid and Semi-Arid Regions** by Phoebe Koundouri, Katia Karousakis, Dionysis Assimacopoulos, Paul Jeffrey, Manfred A. Lange. The book is published by: Edward Elgar Publishing, e-mail: [info@e-elgar.co.uk](mailto:info@e-elgar.co.uk)
- **Sustainable Management of Water Resources. An Integrated Approach** by Carlo Giupponi, Anthony J. Jakeman, Derek Karssenber and Matt P. Hare. The book follows from the contribution of the FP5 project **MULINO** and provides introduction to water resource management. The book is published by: Edward Elgar Publishing, e-mail: [info@e-elgar.co.uk](mailto:info@e-elgar.co.uk)

#### **EVENTS**

- Stockholm Water Week 2006, Joint Workshop on: **PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF IWRM IN AFRICA**. *Jointly organised by the EU Water Initiative (Research). Challenge Programme on Water and Food Workshop. Lilla Teatern Room, 22 August 2006, 13:30 - 17:30. Overall objective:* To address capacity building barriers to adaptive, knowledge-based approaches to Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) implementation. For more information please contact Zissimos Vergos, European Commission, e-mail: [Zissimos.Vergos@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Zissimos.Vergos@ec.europa.eu)
- **Drinking water quality in distribution systems, Workshop, Nancy, 7 - 8 September 2006.** This workshop is organised as the result of a strong research effort undertaken in the context of the EC FP5 project **SAFER** <http://www.safer-eu.com/> It is addressed to collectivities, industrials, researchers and in general, any institution or organisation, whose role is to guarantee the quality of drinking water during its distribution. For more information on the workshop see <http://www.nancie.asso.fr/workshopsafer.htm>
- **Towards use of uncertainty in data and models in water resources management,** Workshop, Brussels, September 2006. The HarmoniRIB project (Harmonised Techniques and Representative River Basin Data for Assessment and Use of Uncertainty Information in Integrated Water Management) is organising a final one day workshop (date still to be fixed between 11-22 September 2006). The final date of the workshop and further information will be announced in the project's website: [www.harmonirib.com](http://www.harmonirib.com)
- **IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition,** Beijing, China, 10-14 September 2006. The European Commission Research Directorate General will be present at exhibition stand NÂ207 in the IWA World Water Congress and Exhibiti on to be held in Beijing, China, on 10-14 September 2006 Info at <http://www.iwa2006beijing.com> For further information, please contact Mr. Avelino Gonzalez at: [avelino.gonzalez-gonzalez@ec.europa.eu](mailto:avelino.gonzalez-gonzalez@ec.europa.eu)

#### **5.RESOURCES AND RESERVES: MINERALS** **PUBLICATIONS AND AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

The EPA have just published "**Guidelines: Environmental Management in the Extractive Industry(Non-Scheduled Minerals)**" The *Guidelines* are down-loadable from your web on [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie) see Reports and Publications.

For general issues in Reserves and Resources visit the following website regularly: <http://www.unece.org/ie/se/reserves.html> It sums up developments in R&R issues under the auspices of the Sustainable Energy Group of the UN ECE.

## **6.JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Vacancies (Ireland) **Geology Technician**

**The Position:** Reporting directly to the Grade Control Geologist, the Geology Technician will have responsibility for the following: Geological mapping of faces and sidewalls. Assessing faces for potential geotechnical problems. Collecting channel, chip and blast-hole sludge samples. Estimating ore grades and marking up of grade cut-offs on faces. Entering data into databases. Communicating with geologists and mining personnel. Maintaining health, safety and environmental standards in compliance with the systems adopted in the mine namely ISRS and ISO14001.

**The Qualifications:**

Applicants should possess a relevant third level qualification and be computer literate. Candidates will be required to work five days per week on a weekly rotating day/ night shift roster, which includes Saturdays. The successful candidate will possess good communication skills, be a team player and capable of working in a results orientated environment. Geological work experience would be advantageous. **If you are interested in this position and feel you meet the requirements of the job, please send your C.V. to:** The Human Resources Department, The Lisheen Mine, Killoran, Moyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

**Tel:** +353 504 45600. Email: [humanresources@lisheenmine.ie](mailto:humanresources@lisheenmine.ie) **Website:** [www.lisheenmine.ie](http://www.lisheenmine.ie)