

Newsletter June 2021

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The EWA announces Raymond Erpelding (LU) as new EWA President

New EWA Vice President Wendy Francken (BE)

At the annual EWA Council Meeting held online during the 40 years Anniversary Celebration of the Association, Raymond Erpelding (2021-2023) from ALUSEAU, started his term as EWA President. Wendy Francken from VLARIO, was elected new Vice President.

Raymond Erpelding has been a member of the EWA Council since 2007. Raymond Erpelding is currently the Managing Director of S.I.A.C.H. (Syndicat Intercommunal pour l'Assainissement du bassin de la Chiers) in Pétange, Luxembourg and currently still a member of the Management Board of ALUSEAU (Association Luxembourgeoise des Services d'Eau) after being President of ALUSEAU from 2007 to 2018.

The newly elected EWA Vice President is **Wendy Francken**, Managing Director of VLARIO, Belgium. VLARIO is an independent non-governmental and non-profit organization in Flanders (Belgium).

The aspiring President thanked his predecessor, Bjørn Kaare Jensen, (EWA President 2019-2021) "for a job well done and for paving the way for the upcoming term".



IWA recognises Prof. Jiří Wanner as Honorary Life Membership Award



We would like to congratulate the EWA Honorary Member and EWA Past President, Prof. Jiří Wanner! We are very proud to announce

and share with you this IWA Award as Honorary Life Member! We are so proud of having you in our network of experts and join the IWA on a well-deserved achievement!

According to the IWA Jury: "Prof Wanner has made significant contributions in the field of sewage treatment. Throughout his career, he has focused on biological wastewater treatment in multiple areas, from the microbiology of activated sludge to the design and operation of large wastewater treatment plants. He is an IWA Distinguished Fellow and his involvement with IWA spans 35 years. Prof Wanner's, during which he contributed to the work related to his specialist areas through specialist groups, conferences and supporting the association activity in central Europe, including 25 years as Chair of the Czech Republic Governing Assembly."

For more information on this prestigious award, please read the press release here [Link](#)
To follow the podcast of the award Ceremony, follow this [link](#)

New EWA Corporate Member

WTE Wassertechnik GmbH

The WTE Group see themselves as a Service Group who provide active environment protection by collecting, transmitting, and treatment of waste water, as well as by supplying potable water. On extending, restructuring, building and operating of our plants, the company implements environmentally sound processes, materials and supplies. Sludge and waste materials are returned into environmentally acceptable cycles.



Additionally, the WTE Group aim at functional supply and discharge by means of consulting and inspections. The company applies organisational provisions in order to avoid disturbances of operation and to keep negative impact at lowest levels possible; we take care of secure operations of our potable water supply plants, our waste water treatment plants, incineration- and power plants.

The WTE Group is internationally active in 18 countries both in Europe and abroad. Moreover, the company has started a highly interesting joint venture with another EWA Corporate Member, HUBER SE called [sludge2energy GmbH](#).

For more on the new EWA Corporate member, please visit their [English-speaking Website](#).

We welcome WTE Wassertechnik GmbH in the EWA network to collaborate on Clean Water for Europe!

EWA Events

Join us on 22 June 2021!

You can still sign up for the EWA 40th Anniversary Water Web-Seminar on Micropollutants



The original EWA Spring Conference will offer new perspectives on this important topic

The speakers of the event are presented on our [website!!](#)

You still have the possibility to register!

Micropollutants are a challenge, for waste water operators whose mission is to treat waste water to ensure the protection of the environment and ecosystems, and for drinking water operators, who have to rely on drinking water resources to produce drinking water. The 4th EWA Spring Conference will discuss the European approaches to the challenges of these organic or mineral contaminants which are of anthropogenic as well as natural origin.

Find the registration form [here!](#)

EWA Innovation Series

Phosphorus in Wastewater

Waste to Phosphorus is the Solution to the Future!

The scarcity in Europe of phosphate ore along with the constantly growing demand for phosphorus-based products make it essential to find new sources and innovative recovery techniques for phosphorus in all of its forms.

The utility companies in Hamburg, HAMBURG WASSER and REMONDIS, have built the world's first large-scale plant to recover this vital raw material at the Hamburg sewage treatment plant.

For the first time, this unique process shows how this important raw material concentrated in sewage sludge ash during wastewater treatment will be recycled economically and efficiently. In the long term, the sewage sludge ash produced in Hamburg is to be completely recycled in order to recover phosphorus.

The EWA innovation web-seminar will show this innovative approach to

- promote the recycling of phosphorus from sewage sludge
 - outline recovery methods/ technologies
- summarize the advantages and disadvantages of various methods and application conditions, applications technologies...etc.

More information and registration form is available [here](#)



EWA Online Course on EU Water Policy and Legislation

Due to its popularity we offer this webinar again!

► Save the Date: 05. + 6.10.2021 (tbc)

Participants will be made familiar with development and principles of EU water policy, the decision-taking and implementation/scrutiny process, governance at EU level (openness, transparency, citizens' right on access to documents; rights of complaint and petition, as well as the key legislative elements of EU water policy and their implementation.



16th EWA Brussels Conference

Water in the Value Chain

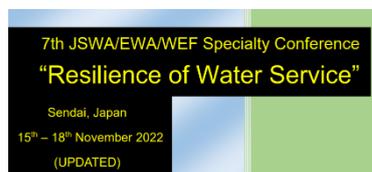
Date: 9-10 November (tbc)

Session 1: European legislation and initiatives
Session 2: Circular Water / Integrated Water Resource Management
Session 3: Protection of the water resources
Session 4: Climate adaptation strategies



New Date : 7th Joint JSWA/WEF/EWA Conference

Face-to-Face Conference in beautiful Sendai, Japan!



Resilience of Water Service

The following associations JSWA (Japan Sewage Works Association), EWA (European Water Association) and WEF (Water Environment Federation) join their forces and offer you a highly interesting event on the status quo in of the Water Sector both in Europe as well as beyond!

Submission of abstracts open **7 September 2021 - 8 March 2022**.

Water service needs to be resilient to manage acute and chronic disruptions. The resilient water service is sustainable when faced with disruptions. The disruptors include floods, earthquakes, refugee influx, droughts, sea level rise, climate change, shrinking customer base, energy crisis, reducing workforce, aging infrastructure etc. Some are natural and others are anthropological. In this 7th edition of the JSWA/EWA/WEF specialty joint conference series, we tag the sessions and individual presentations to SDGs and highlight water related refugee issues. Water service resilience is linked with Goal 6, 9, and 11 in general. We set three focused areas. First is water services to political/economic refugees and disaster evacuees, which relate to Goal 13 & 16. Providing adequate sanitation service to refugees and evacuees is an obligation for human rights. Political instability and extreme weather events have led to many refugees and evacuees in the world. Second is development and application of smart water technology, which is a recent hot topic of innovation. Third is case study of real life events, both positive and negative. We accept abstracts outside of these three categories too. This joint conference will explore ways to make water services more resilient. The intention is to share experience from across the world covering: real life examples of lessons learned from major events, innovative technologies and practices, and technical-scientific researches, which strengthen resilience of water service.

For more information on content and submission of abstracts, please

News from Brussels

Topics covered in the News from Brussels

The articles in the News from Brussels section here below cover the following topics:

- 1) Public consultation on EU rules on urban wastewater treatment (update), open until 21 July 2021
- 2) Joint Research Centre Water scenarios for the Danube River Basin: Future challenges and preparedness
- 3) Bathing Water Directive 2006: review commenced
- 4) Bathing Water Directive 2006 review: Surfrider Foundation Europe's point of view (April 2021)
- 5) Commission Joint Research Centre: Global warming could more than double costs caused by drought in Europe, study finds
- 6) Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy
- 7) Turów open pit coal mine (Poland)
- 8) Switzerland unilaterally declares end to negotiations on EU-CH Agreement
- 9) Zero pollution action plan presented
- 10) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN): New publication
- 11) European Parliament questions

1) Public consultation on EU rules on urban wastewater treatment (update), open until 21 July 2021

The UWWTD was adopted 30 years ago to protect the environment from the harmful effects of the discharges of untreated wastewater. The Evaluation published in 2019 found that the Directive overall works well but that there are some areas that need to be improved. Also in light of the European Green Deal, the Directive needs to align with new environmental and climate ambitions.

Read the full article:

➔ [Public Consultation on EU Rules on UWWTD](#)

2) Joint Research Centre Water scenarios for the Danube River Basin: Future challenges and preparedness

As the European Commission's science and knowledge service, the Joint Research Centre (JRC) supports EU policies with independent scientific evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.

This report presents the outcomes of a foresight study aimed at identifying the emerging challenges for water management in the Danube region, considering a set of possible future socioeconomic and political scenarios. For each scenario, JRC analysed the possible implications for key water management issues (wastewater treatment, diffuse pollution and hydromorphological alteration).

Read the full article:

➔ [JRC Report](#)

3) Bathing Water Directive 2006: review commenced

In the 1970s, the EU introduced rules to ensure clean coastal and inland bathing waters. The 2006 Bathing Water Directive updated and simplified these rules.

After 15 years, it appears timely to review this 2006 Directive, taking into account experiences by the public, stakeholders and local/regional/national authorities, and scientific development during those 15 years.

The review started with publication of an Inception Impact Assessment in March 2021, requesting feedback on this very general outline of a possible scope for a review. A full-scale public consultation will follow.

Read the full article:

➔ [Bathing Water Review](#)

4) Bathing Water Directive 2006 review: Surfrider Foundation Europe's point of view (April 2021)

Commission Recommendation

In the context of consultation during the very first stage of the review of the 2006 Bathing Water Directive, a key European NGO, Surfrider Foundation Europe, presented in April 2021 a feedback, which is downloadable as follows:

Read the full article:

➔ [BWD Review Surfrider Europe](#)

5) Commission Joint Research Centre Report

Global warming could more than double its costs caused by drought in Europe, study finds.

In the absence of action to limit and adapt to climate change, the impact of droughts on Europe's economy could reach over €65 billion a year by 2100, according to a JRC study published on 10 May 2021 in Nature Climate Change.

Read the full article:

➔ [JRS Droughts Impact](#)

6) Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy

'Final' negotiations between European Parliament, Council and Commission without success

Following intensive and tough negotiations between European Parliament, Council and Commission, this were the early conclusions by media, which is downloadable here:

Read the full article:

➔ [CAP REFORM](#)

7) Turów open pit coal mine (Poland)

Court of Justice orders immediate cessation of lignite extraction activities for environmental reasons.

The Turów mine is an open pit lignite mine located in South-Western Poland (Lower Silesia Region), close to the borders of the Czech Republic and Germany.

Read the full article:

➔ [TUROW MINE](#)

8) Switzerland unilaterally declares end to negotiations on EU-CH Agreement

EU-Swiss Institutional Framework Agreement

On Wednesday 26 May 2021, the Government of Switzerland saw unilaterally declaring an end to negotiations on an EU-Swiss Institutional Framework Agreement.

A draft for the agreement jointly agreed at political level had been on the table since November 2018. Switzerland and the EU has a common history of cooperation of almost 50 years.

Read the full article:

➔ [Switzerland](#)

9) Zero pollution action plan presented

Towards zero pollution for air, water and soil

Pollution harms our health and our environment. It is the largest environmental cause of multiple mental and physical diseases and of premature deaths, especially among children, people with certain medical conditions and the elderly.

Read the full article:

➔ [Zero Pollution](#)

10) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

New publication "[Sharing the benefits from river basin management: From theory to practice](#)"

Worldwide, water resources are shared between different stakeholders for multiple uses. With water resources becoming scarcer yet users increasing, management of shared water resources can be challenging. Stakeholders in water use and extraction often represent varied interests, drawn from different sectors and levels from local to national to regional scales in the riparian countries.

Read the full article:

➔ ["Sharing Benefits"](#)

11) European Parliament questions

18 water-related questions from Parliamentarians, from nitrate pollution in groundwater via modernising drinking water supply systems to deepening of rivers.

Read the full article:

➔ [EP Parliamentary Questions 3-2021](#)

Inside EWA

EWA Online Events

An exciting programme of activities for 2022 is currently being planned.

Highlights are most definitely IFAT 2022 and the upcoming 25th EWA Symposium and other EWA side events on Water Reuse and Surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 and its Variants in Wastewaters. Stay tuned for more on the EWA Social Media Channels:

Information about content and registration will be posted here as soon as available:

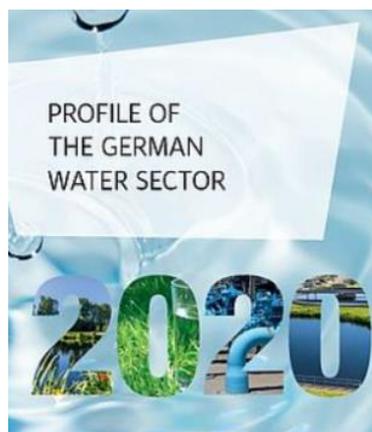
★ [EWA website](#) (ewa-online.eu)

★ [Facebook](#) (@ewa.online.eu)

★ [LinkedIn](#)

★ [Twitter](#) (@water_ewa)

The Profile of the German Sector 2020 in English out now!



The sector profile highlights the variety of tasks of the drinking water supply and wastewater disposal in Germany, as well as their future challenges and was developed in consultation with the Association of German Cities (Deutscher Städtetag) and the German Association of Towns and Municipalities (Deutscher Städte- und Gemeindebund). The central goal of the German water sector is to secure the high-quality standards and – wherever possible and necessary – to improve them.

The supply of drinking water and the disposal of wastewater must work reliably in Germany. The importance of these services becomes particularly apparent in times of crisis. Security of supply has been and continues to be reliably ensured by our sector.

Against the background of manifold changes, all those involved are making considerable efforts to continue to operate successfully. Challenges include dealing with climatic and demographic change, and simultaneously with changing consumer habits and digitalisation. Additionally, the increasing contamination of drinking water resources by man-made pollutants, rising and often competing water demand in society, the refined detection and minimisation of the input of anthropogenic trace substances (for example pesticides and their degradation products) pose further challenges. As a result, conflicts of use with industry, agriculture, or the goals of energy policy challenge German water sector.

Drinking water suppliers and wastewater disposal companies confront these tasks. They advocate for flexible and adapted

solutions on a local level through on social consensus. Increasingly, they make their business decisions in a political context. The common goal of politics and the water sector must be to overcome the challenges associated with maintaining the infrastructure and, at the same time, to anchor the sector's efforts even more strongly in the public consciousness. High-quality water supply and wastewater disposal make an important contribution to our economic strength and the economic development of regions, in short: to our prosperity. This is precisely why we need a functioning water sector of high-quality.

The full version of the Profile of the Germany Water Sector can be downloaded here: [here](#)

Other Events

SIDISA 2021 XI International Symposium on Environmental Engineering

29 June - 02 July 2021

The National Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (ANDIS), the Italian Group of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (GITISA) are pleased to announce the 11th International Symposium on Environmental Engineering (SIDISA 2020).

Three specialized sessions are foreseen:

- 1) Water management in developing countries (organized by Hydroaid)
- 2) Waste Management in developing countries
- 3) Environmental sustainability of mining activities (organized in the framework of EC Remind Project: Renewable Energies for Water Treatment and Reuse in Mining Industries).



IFAT India

28-30 September 2021

Messe Muenchen India is planning to organise the environmental technologies community together despite these challenging times. It will enable you to showcase your products and services and to enhance exposure to a large audience from the environment sector, including a vast global network of potential buyers. IFAT India translates the passion of India's game changers and leading environmentalists to bring holistic sustainable solutions to pressing environmental issues-for a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable country.



IFAT Eurasia

21-23 October 2021

IFAT Eurasia, the meeting point of the Environmental Technologies in Eurasia, will gather the international technology providers and users once again at Istanbul. Solution alternatives for environmental problems will be exhibited and measures to be necessarily taken for the future will be discussed.

The previous fair attracted almost 10,500 visitors from 84 countries and 215 companies exhibited and represented 339 brands.



IFAT Africa

02-04 November 2021

Food waste, pollution, water and waste management and energy - among the key environmental challenges facing the country – will all come under the spotlight at a cross-sector trade show to be staged by Messe Muenchen South Africa this year.

Suzette Scheepers, CEO of Messe Muenchen South Africa, says:
"Energy reliability is a challenge across sectors, with a growing awareness among enterprises that they need to look to cleaner, renewable sources of power for manufacturing. At the same time, our environment faces waste, refuse, water and wastewater challenges, and a significant food security and waste problem. These challenges are interlinked to a large degree: water scarcity and poor water quality impacts food manufacturing; manufacturing waste impact water and air quality; food packaging and production methods impact environmental quality and food security."



Until we meet again ..

The next EWA Newsletter is due in August 2021.

Until then, please visit us at:

★ [Facebook](#) (@ewa.online.eu)

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★ [Twitter](#) (@water_ewa)

★ [Youtube](#): EWA Online



Any suggestions, comments or content from the members to the next issue may be send to this [email](#).

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