

10th September 2007 at SPLASH

The European Union Water Initiative  
European Research Area Network



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## NEWS FROM SPLASH

### Making a SPLASH in Stockholm

Stockholm World Water Week is one of the largest events in the water and sanitation sector, attended by more than 1500 professionals from around the world. What better venue than this to raise awareness about the SPLASH project which is working towards improving coordination of European-funded research on water for development?

The presence of SPLASH at World Water Week and its participation in various events allowed us to inform those outside the Consortium about the programme and to motivate people to get involved. These included a speed networking event (see below), a presentation by Peter O'Neill to the EU-WI Multi-stakeholder forum and a poster presentation.

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## 10th September 2007 FEATURE

### SPLASH speed-networking event

A 'speed networking event' was also held during the week which provided a unique and fun experience for the 70 participants, at the same time allowing SPLASH to capture current thinking of how to enhance future water research. Topics covered included research priorities, demand, improved dialogue, impact of research and capacity development. There were some important findings, which were put forward to the World Water Week plenary:

- **Getting the research question right** involves making connections with local research institutions to identify priority issues for research;
- **Getting the research into use** requires appropriate communication, with the support of enabling intermediaries;
- **Success requires flexible approaches** e.g. timeframes and funding mechanisms for research objectives to be met.

Overall, the side event was rated a huge success with participants and organizers and a win-win activity for all concerned. Clearly this is just the beginning but SPLASH is set to continue to make waves in water for development over the next four years,

working towards making the European Research Area a reality.

A detailed report on the findings from this event is available [here](#).

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**Visit the SPLASH Website**

<http://www.splash-era.net/>

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