

Application Form for Expression of Commitment to initiate an Action Group European Innovation Partnership on Water

Call round: Autumn 2013
Deadline for submission: **31 January 2014**

1 - Title of Action Group (AG)

ENERGY and WATER WORKS: energizing sustainable deltas (EWW)

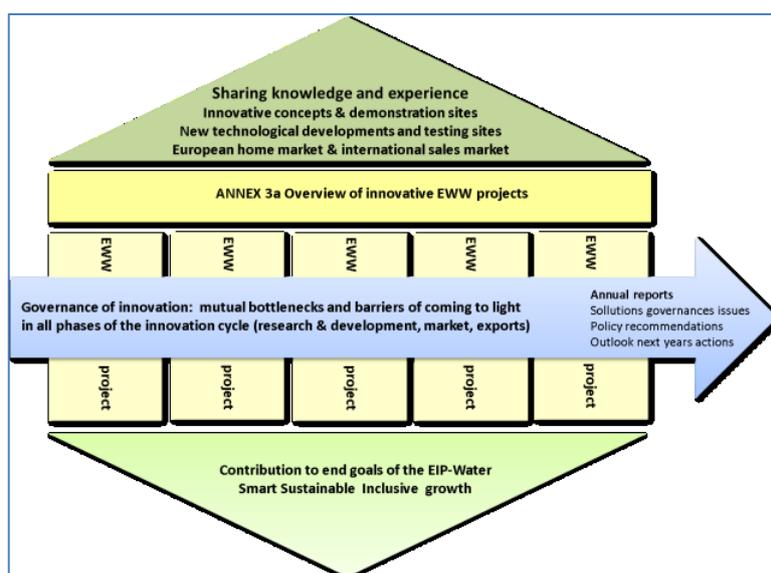
2 - Contact person (AG lead organization)

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3 - Executive summary of planned activities

The **main goal** of the EWW Action Group is to enhance European interest in the innovative crossovers between energy and water in the development of policy, markets and knowledge, and to further the relevant industrial policies.

To achieve that goal the Action Group EWW will organize several international conferences and workshops at which the knowledge and experience of the EWW projects (**see end of this section 3**) will be shared and at which the EWW Action Group partners will address common innovation bottlenecks and barriers, the *issues relating to the governance of innovation (section 5.3)*. These issues are features of, and come to light in, all phases of the innovation cycle (research & development, market, exports). Each issue comprises problems common to the participating projects and parties since the EWW Action Group contributes to the end goals of the Water EIP, namely: *smart, sustainable and inclusive growth*. By addressing these issues, the action group will serve an umbrella function, overarching the EWW projects that participate. These projects will continue to manage and maintain their own goals and deliverables. The diagram here shows the working approach of the Action Group EWW.



The EWW Action Group envisages **joining forces** to look at feasible solutions for water challenges by means of innovative multifunctional concepts and exclusive new technologies, such as low-head and free-flow tidal energy convertors and (RED) osmosis energy conversion, for energy production (**section 6.1**).

1. The integral design and construction/adaptation of water defences and water regulation structures using, in particular, the Churchill Barriers, the Brouwersdam and the Afsluitdijk as demonstration projects.
2. Defining decision-support models and business models for energy-producing water defences and regional development.
3. The Action Group constitutes in itself the establishment of the European network in this field.

The **deliverables** of the Action Group consist of (**section 5.4**):

- Reporting about the progress on the resolution of governance issues with the aim of establishing integrated decision-making for multi-functional water works, tendering and financing strategies, and earning models for implementation and management in the public domain.
- Reporting the results of the planned conferences and workshops, which will be published in the annual reports in terms of policy recommendations for the EU Commission.
- An outlook for the actions in subsequent years.

Country	Project	Energy&Waterworks: (1)Open (2) in-between (3)closed (4)offshore / Demonstration-sites
NL	1	Afsluitdijk (3) free flow tidal in discharge sluices / osmotic energy
	2	Brouwersdam tidal power plant (2) low head tidal energy
	3	Eastern Scheldt Barrier (1) Free flow flow tidal energy
Scotland / UK	4	Churchill Barrier (2) Tidal low head Tidal
UK	5	The Perpetuus Tidal Energy Centre (PTEC) in the Isle of Wight (UK) (Pro-tide) (4)
UK	6	A tidal energy plant in the Port of Dover Harbor (Pro-tide) (4)
China	7	DTP- CHINA (4)
Korea	8	DTP-Korea (4)
United Kingdom	9	DTP-UK(4)
Ireland	10	DTP-Ireland (4)
The Netherlands	11	DTP-The Netherlands(4)
France	12	France Energy Marines
Country	Project	Tidal Testing Centers
NL	13	TTC-NL (Flakkeese Spuisluis at the Grevelingendam and Marsdiep)
Scotland / UK	14	TTC- EMEC
Portugal	15	TTC-Wavec
France	16	TTC-France

4 - Partner base of this AG

4.1 - List all partner organizations/companies in this AG

Name / Back-up	organization	Country	Type (see list below)
Phil Monbet	France Energies Marines	France	T1
Alex Raventos	WavEC	Portugal	T1
Arnout Bijlsma	Deltares	Netherlands	T1
Arwin van Buuren	Erasmus University Rotterdam	Netherlands	T1
Ine Neven/ Charles van Schaick	Provincial Authority /secretariat of Action Group EWW	Netherlands	T2
Wouter Groenen/Zjev Ambagts/ Thecla Westerhof / Leo van der Klip/Sonja Busch	Provincial Authority	Netherlands	T2
Steven Heddle / Peter Bevan	Orkney Islands County Council	United Kingdom	T2+T5
Daan Dijk	Rabobank the Netherlands	Netherlands	T3
Pieter Bergmeijer /Pauline Kooistra	TTC (Tidal Testing Centre)	Netherlands	T4
Neil Kermodé	EMEC (European Marine Energy Centre)	United Kingdom	T4
Piet Ackermans/ Chris Raijmakers	Antea Group	Netherlands	T4 +T6
Rick Siebers	Redstack BV	Netherlands	T4 +T6
Teunis Louter/ Rob Steijn	Arcadis International	Netherlands	T4 +T6
Joe Hussey/Abby Badcock-Broe	IT Power group	United Kingdom	T4+ T6
Frank Neumann	Institute for Infrastructure, Environment and Innovation	Belgium	T7

5 - Description of planned activities

5.1 - Select the core EIP W priority area that this AG aims to focus on

P30 WATER – ENERGY-NEXUS

5.2 - Select secondary EIP W priority areas that this AG aims to work on (if applicable)

P32 Innovative and widely applicable solutions for energy recovery and/or surplus energy production, both from water in natural systems and from anthropogenic water use.

P33 The development and demonstration of widely applicable concepts and solutions for water use related to energy production, and to urban and industrial hot/cold water systems.

P42 Innovative mitigation and adaptation measures to minimize climate change impacts, including the role of natural ecosystems and their protection.

P64 Interventions to overcome barriers in the governance systems that hinder the development and uptake of innovations.

5.3 - Describe which specific innovation barriers will be addressed in the work of this AG

The Action Group will focus on and resolve the innovation bottlenecks and barriers listed below (issues relating to the governance of innovation). Each issue refers to the shared problems affecting the participating projects and parties. These issues are features of, and come to light in, all phases of the innovation chain (research, development, market, exports).

1. **Research and technological development** (the innovation phase proceeding from innovative concepts to test centres and test sites)
 - a. Technical, ecological and morphological know-how relating to both osmotic power and low-head, free-flow and dynamic tidal power applications relating to water defences and water regulation structures is scattered and therefore not available in a way that allows for efficient feasibility and design studies by commercial parties.
 - b. The triple helix collaboration is usual at the beginning of the innovation chain. As innovations get closer to market implementation, questions arise about how to deal with sensitive market information.
 - c. European certification of proven technologies with respect to local area quality.
 - d. European solutions for Normalisation.
 - e. Intellectual Property Rights.
2. **European home market** (the innovation phase leading from prototype to application in development projects)
 - a. Integral design and construction/adaptation of multifunctional water defences is not yet the common approach. This adversely affects public and private investments; the same applies to the decision-making process, and business models and public-private partnerships. In essence the governance / innovation challenge for Energy & Water Works is about integrating different functions, like flood risk management & water management, water quality, energy production and nature development, in a single structure and/or area. These objects – water defences or water regulation structures – and the water are normally managed and maintained exclusively by a public water authority. Integrating energy and other functions in a structure of this kind and/or an area therefore requires auxiliary facilities that enable the establishment and management of multifunctional entities. How can we adjust the institutional design for the governance of innovation in the European context to further the application and diffusion of innovations, especially where two largely self-referential and highly regulated institutional domains meet?

- b. Solving barriers to acceleration and in the learning curve for technologies so that a competitive price becomes achievable for the energy produced.
- c. How can we break through the interdependency between political and private commitments to speed up the development of public-private partnerships and accelerate the deployment of TTCs?
- d. Tidal energy, and osmotic energy in particular, are not fully mature with respect to the innovation chain. Government facilities and/or large amounts of venture capital are needed to bridge the "Valley of Death". Neither energy technology is yet fully anchored in both water and energy policies. The Action Group parties, together with the EU Commission DG Environment/Water and EU Commission DG Research & Innovation, will (1) discuss the options for government support and collaboration, and explore ways of obtaining large amounts of venture capital to bridge the "Valley of Death", and (2) strengthen the links between the Water EIP and the different national industrial policies.

3. Export (the innovation phase leading from the home market to export)

- a. There is still no sound European basis for scaling up application at the European and global levels. The joint activities of the Action Group will result in an ongoing lead for European commercial parties with respect to other continents and therefore in the field of export opportunities. That applies not only to developers, but also to the research institutions and intermediaries, who are increasingly active in the market.

5.4.- Describe the action plan, with deliverables and milestones

Action plan and Deliverables

As the main goal of the Action Group EWW is to enhance European interests in the area of crossovers between energy and water in the development of policy, markets and knowledge and to further the relevant industrial policies, the Action Group will

1. work on solving the mutual innovation barriers, sharing knowledge and experience and disseminating results during the international conferences and workshops organised by the partners of the EWW Action Group. Deliverables in sum are recommendations
 - o concerning European certification of proven technologies with respect to local area quality and European solutions for Normalisation
 - o for dedicated decision making processes, business models and public-private-partnerships in the field of multifunctional water defences
2. contribute to events to be planned in the future in order to establish political and administrative support for the urgency of the innovative crossovers in energy production from water, to further international alliances with different, internationally acknowledged, research institutions, and to strengthen and expand the market. Deliverables in sum are
 - o new and validated design tools for integral design and build/construction/adaptation of multifunctional waterdefences and water regulation structures. These comprise energy technology implemented in waterworks, morphological en and ecological aspects with respect to these applications.

The Action Plan and Deliverables (listed in detail in 6.1) will be produced through interactive workshops and conferences < see table below > . The communication & dissemination events to be planned in the future are summarised in the table below and will be expanded on in due course.

Milestones:

When the EWW Action Group is formally established, the partners will decide which actions (finding solutions for the specific innovation barriers listed in section 5.3) will be planned and delivered in 2014 and which actions will follow in subsequent years.

Action Plan, deliverables and milestones						
Organised by EWW Partners	International conferences, workshops and future events (includes communication & dissemination)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Action Group EWW	International partner workshops	May	May	May	May	May
Project Partners Pro-tide	International workshops on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market and cooperation Knowledge exchange test centres Business cases 	Feb, March April				
North Sea Commission	North Sea Commission 25th anniversary stakeholder conference - Sustainable growth and partnership in the North Sea Region	March				
EIP Water	Contribution to the annual EIP Water Conference: dealing with governance issues; reporting on progress, analysis of encountered barriers, possible policy recommendations, and on an outlook for the next year's actions.	Nov	Nov	Nov	Nov	Nov
European Commission	Sustainable Energy Week 2014	June				
Noord-Holland Provincial Authority	International Water Conference; Contribution by Energising Deltas	Autumn				
Climate changes Spatial Planning, Knowledge for Climate and the City of Rotterdam.	Deltas in Times of Climate Change II; Contribution by Energising Deltas	Sept				
Energising Deltas	Final Conference		March			
Pro-tide	Final Conference		June			
Action Group partners	Communication products: Workshops /Fact sheets / Newsletters / Research & Evaluation Reports / Broadcasting activities, websites.	x				
Action Group partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excursions and site visits Lectures at international conferences in other cities Master's course for students at institutes of advanced education in the fields of technology and applied sciences) 	X	X			

6 - Innovative concepts

6.1 - Describe innovative concepts in the works of this AG, e.g. by envisioned product, service, and/or delivery channel and new practices or markets (or in the case of thematic cross-cutting activities: describe the envisioned enhancement of the framework, e.g. in regulation or finance)

The Action Group sees new opportunities for concepts that produce sustainable energy by using water defences and water regulation structures such as dams, barrages and storm surge barriers in urbanized areas like Rotterdam in the delta of the River Rhine. Technologies for energy production will be low-head and free-flow tidal energy convertors and (RED) osmosis energy conversion. Tidal and osmosis energy exploit the opportunities for energy production at both closed water defences separating salt and fresh water and open/semi-open defences allowing tidal flows. These **innovative concepts** are closely related to the strengthening and sustainability of ecosystem services. The concepts are described in **product flyers and product fact sheets < ANNEXES 6a-6j>**.

European commercial, research and governmental parties which are already involved in several projects in this field will therefore take the initiative to bundle knowledge and efforts in order to bring this smart delta technology – energy-producing water defences – to a higher and commercially appealing level. On the basis of

shared experience with the activities and projects listed, the Action Group plans to develop joint efforts targeting the following innovative concepts <ANNEXES 6f1 – 6h1>

1. Integral design and construction/adaptation of water defences using, in particular, the Churchill Barriers, Brouwersdam and Afsluitdijk as demonstration projects.
2. Defining decision-support models and business models for energy-producing water defences and regional development.
3. The Action Group constitutes in itself the establishment of the European network in this field. In the initial stages, the Action Group will take action to expand the group and bring in European members.

6.2 - Describe how the envisioned results compare to existing solutions that may be similar or adjacent (added value of the envisioned results of this AG)

The **conventional approach** to flood protection structures and water management is to reconstruct, build and design these water works for one water challenge only: safety (*flood defences to protect social capital from sea-level rise*). These waterworks are monofunctional.

However, **an integrated approach** creates multifunctional water works in which the challenge of dealing with climate adaptation (*flood protection*) is linked to the challenge of sustainable ecosystem services and climate mitigation (*producing sustainable energy*) and in specific situations also to the problems of water quality and water supplies. This **integrated Delta approach** is more effective and efficient than the traditional monofunctional approach and is required by all Delta areas worldwide. The application of this integrated approach requires new governmental, financial and private decision-making and business models. But it also requires more transdisciplinary knowledge development about environmental and morphological impacts and about how to address barriers between legislation, licensing and public-private partnerships. These issues have not yet been addressed in adequate detail.

The **added value** of the Action Group is that the partners will (1) active strengthen the European home market (2) boost substantial job growth in relevant knowledge sector and manufacturing industry (3) enhance climate resilience (4) improve nature-and waterquality (4) improve the water governance approach for Integrated Water Resource Management

6.3 - Provide references to available work-to-date (e.g. policy studies used, feasibility studies, market research, draft business plans)

	References to available work-to-date
Used policy studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 Water is worth it: Advisory report for the Water Top Sector. The Hague, June 2011 (in Dutch) • 2011 Accelerating Marine Energy, July 2011, Carbon Trust, ref. ctc 797 • 2012 Position Paper: European Innovation Partnership on Water: Insights and current initiatives in The Netherlands (NWP) • 2012 Brussels, 10.5.2012; COM(2012) 216 final; Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the European Innovation Partnership on Water 2012 EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP WATER STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN, BRUSSELS, 18 DECEMBER 2012 • 2012 Water Top Sector: Bring in the Dutch: Delta Technology Innovation Contract 2012-2013 • 2012 Water Top Sector: Water Technology Innovation Contract: Knowledge about Water; Cash for later 2012-2013 (in Dutch) • 2012 Energy Top Sector: Energy Innovation Contract. Energy savings in the built-up environment, industry, gas, smart grids, wind at sea (in Dutch) • 2012 Integrated method to assess the governance of water (Erasmus University Rotterdam; Geert Teisman et al.) • 2013 Coordination of public-private research: From Variety to Tailored Solutions, Rathenau Institute, The Hague, 2013 (in Dutch) • 2013 The User's Guide on Assessing Water Governance ; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Water Governance Facility, International Water Institute, Stockholm, the UNDP Oslo Governance Centre and the UNDP

	<p>Global Programme on Anti-corruption for Effectiveness (PACDE).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2013 OECD – Study of Future-Robustness of Dutch Water Management. Building blocks for good water governance. • 2013 EIO Thematic Report Water innovation: How eco-innovation can contribute to the sustainability of Europe’s water resources. • 2013 Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to advanced Climate Change Adaptation (IPPC, 2013) • 2013 OE CD Reviews of Regional Innovation, Regions and Innovation, Collaborating across Borders • 2013 Water Top Sector: Dutch Delta Solutions: Delta Technology Innovation Contract 2014-2015 • 2013 Water Top Sector: Water Technology Innovation Contract: 2014-2015
Feasibility studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2012 (MKBA) MIRT REVIEW FOR GREVELINGEN, Witteveen & Bos, Royal Haskoning (in Dutch) • 2012 The strength of the coastal economy. A snapshot of the economic motors, a view of development and a SWOT analysis, Panteia, 2013 (in Dutch) • Review of PPS Brouwersdam Tidal Power Plant and Grevelingendam Tidal Testing Centre (in Dutch) • 2013 Brouwersdam Tidal Power Plant. The Brouwersdam gives an energy boost, Ministry of Infrastructure & the Environment (in Dutch)
Market research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delta zones of the world (Annex 7a) • Potentials for tidal barrages, tidal flows and osmotic power (Annex 7b)
Business plans & Project flyers, project fact sheets & LOIs & LOSs	<p>Overview of all projects of AG partners (Annex 3a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact sheet: The New Afsluitdijk 2013 (Annex 6a) • Fact sheet: Pro-Tide (Annex 6b) • Fact sheet: Brouwersdam Tidal Power Plant: Delta Technology impulse for regional economy (Annex 6c) • LOI: The Zuid-Holland and Zeeland Provincial Authorities (NL) and the Orkney Islands (UK, Scotland) express the intention to work together on determining the feasibility of tidal power generation at the Churchill Barriers, the Brouwersdam and the Afsluitdijk. These three parties shall elaborate potential cooperation in the framework and during scheduled conferences of the ‘Protide’ and/or ‘Energiedijken’ projects. The Letter of Intent provides more details on potential topics for cooperation (Annex 6c1). • Churchill Barriers Flyer (Annex 6d) • Fact sheet: Energising Deltas and Pro-Tide (Annex 6e) • Fact sheet: Tidal Testing Centre Den Oever (Annex 6f) • LOI: EMEC (Orkney, Scotland, UK) and the TTC Den Oever (Netherlands) express the intention to work together on testing facilities for marine energy technologies. The Letter of Intent provides more details on potential topics for cooperation (Annex 6f1) • Fact sheet: Grevelingendam Tidal Testing Centre (Annex 6g) • Flyer: Dynamic Tidal Power Group (Annex 6h) • Flyer: Dutch Dynamic Tidal Power Programme (Annex 6h1) • Flyer: Partners in Dutch Dynamic Tidal Power Programme (Annex 6h2) • Flyer: Chinese Dynamic Tidal Power Programme (Annex 6h3) • LOS: Letter of Support, Deltares-EIP-EWW Water Action group (Annex 6i) • Flyer: France Energy Marines (FEM) (Annex 6j) • R&D activities France Energy Marines (Annex 6j1)

7 - Relevance and urgency

7.1 - Describe likely demand or market potential (or in the case of thematic cross-cutting activities: describe indirect demand/market effects) of envisioned outcomes and results of this AG

There are opportunities to generate electricity from water in virtually all European countries, in particular in areas with estuaries (tides and rivers). In this proposal we focus on low head and free flow tidal energy concertors and (RED) osmosis energy conversion, was well as forms of hydro-energy that are already well developed. This relatively new technology of energy from water can be used worldwide. The aim is to generate interest among parties involved in other deltas worldwide, as in China (Shanghai, Guangzhou), Thailand (Bangkok), India (Mumbai), Korea (Seoul), USA (New York) and Canada (Quebec).

The Dutch Global Water Programme, the World Estuary Alliance and the Delta Alliance comprise 20 deltas zones, as shown in **ANNEX 7a**. The global potential for tidal barrage plants, dynamic tidal power and osmotic power is shown in **ANNEX 7b**. The global market for these technologies exceeds 1.000 GW and requires an investment of about 1.700 B€. Ee expect that European parties, with supported by outcomes of the Action Group activities, will gain at least 40 % of the global market.

In this way, the Action Group will improve the products and deliverables of the participating projects, and this will result in:

- the development of free-flow and low-head tidal energy and osmotic energy;
- the establishment and operation of demonstration sites and testing centres for energy from water;
- concepts for multifunctional area development with coastal barriers;
- robust showcases on the coasts of Europe for water energy projects at dikes, dams, barriers and testing centres which will inspire new companies and players, and also lead to major improvements in nature and water quality;
- the active strengthening of the European home market;
- the commercial activities of the Action Group will result in substantial job growth in the relevant knowledge sector and manufacturing industry;
- climate resilience will be enhanced in specific coastal and delta projects through the extension of the use of energy production from water.

7.2 - Describe the replication potential for roll-out in other sectors and sub-sectors, other regions and countries

The Action Group Partners are experts in crossovers such as flood protection and energy from water and may therefore help to develop the second generation of delta plans in the world.

As shown in **ANNEX 7a and 7b**, the roll-out potential is enormous both in Europe and worldwide. The need to protect delta zones is a very pressing issue indeed, as recent floods have clearly shown. IPCC studies prove that the main cause of these catastrophes is climate change resulting from fossil energy production. So building water defences while exploiting their inherent potential for sustainable energy production amounts to killing two birds with one stone. Closed dams like the Afsluitdijk and the Churchill Barriers, open and semi-open barriers like the Brouwersdam and the Oosterschelde SSB represent the water defences that will typically be applied in as yet insufficiently protected delta areas. Practising the integration of energy from water converters in these structures and assessing the impact will support successful and efficient roll-out worldwide.

7.3 - Which partner(s) in this AG will be directly involved with the dissemination and marketing of the results?

All the partners of the Action Group will be directly involved with the dissemination and marketing of the results.

7.4 - Provide references to likely third parties that could help in the dissemination and marketing of the results

(No firm commitment will be required with those third parties)

In the Netherlands

- EWA, Dutch Energy from Water Association
<http://drimble.nl/bedrijf/utrecht/k30280509/nederlandse-vereniging-voor-energie-uit-water-ewa-dutch-energy-from-water-association.html>
- Energy Valley
Energy Valley's mission is to encourage, incite, facilitate and connect companies, knowledge institutes and government bodies to develop projects together and make real progress in clean, reliable and innovative energy.
- NWP (Dutch Water Partnership) . <http://www.nwp.nl/>
The NWP is a joint project involving Dutch government agencies, researchers and the private, commercial sector, aimed at marketing Dutch know-how in the field of water management to the rest of the world. There is also the I-Storm platform, which serves as an exchange forum for knowledge and experience relating to sea defences.
- Dutch Water Top Sector: <http://topsectoren.nl/water>
- Dutch Delta Programme: <http://www.deltacommissaris.nl>

- Dutch National I-STORM Network: <http://www.i-storm.org/international/>
 - The I-STORM network unites the public administrations of countries that build, manage, operate and maintain moveable storm surge barriers in an innovative way; it shares and exchanges experiences and knowledge; it helps its members to accomplish the highest levels of operational safety and reliability to protect people and property against severe floods.
- In Europe
- OECD
The OECD is a unique forum where governments work together to address the economic, social and environmental challenges of globalisation. OECD Publishing disseminates widely the results of the Organisation's statistics gathering and research on economic, social and environmental issues, as well as the conventions, guidelines and standards agreed by its members.
 - EWA (European Water Association)
EWA is an independent non-governmental and non-profit organisation dealing with the management and improvement of the water environment.
 - Ocean Energy Europe @EUOEA
Ocean Energy Europe is the trade association for ocean renewables in Europe.
MARINET (Marine Renewables Infrastructure Network)
Network of research centres and organisations that are working together to accelerate the development of marine renewable energy technologies - wave, tidal & offshore-wind. MARINET offers periods of free-of-charge access to world-class R&D facilities & expertise and conducts joint activities in parallel to standardise testing, improve testing capabilities and enhance training & networking.
 - Estuary Guidance Expert Group DG Environment EU Commission

8 - Governance

8.1 - Describe planned internal governance arrangements for this AG

The internal governance of the EWW Action Group is expected to consist of the management of the deliverables listed in **Action plan 5.3**, which covers solutions for the shared bottlenecks and barriers facing the underlying partner projects and public-private partnerships. The EWW Action Group governance model does **not** include arrangements for the actual management of the underlying projects. This will be done within the projects.

The governance **structure** of the EWW Action Group is simple and it builds on the partnerships in a triple helix context (*corporate sector, top-level research institutes and national & regional governments*) as follows:

- The chairman is the CEO of one of the participating companies and chairman of the Trade Organisation: *Energy from Water*
- The secretariat is small and, for the time being, located at two regional authorities.
- The core group members are the project and process leaders of each underlying project.

Tasks and responsibilities

- The chairman is responsible for monitoring and furthering the progress of the actions and deliverables of the EWW Action Group and he represents the AG as a whole.
- The secretariat prepares agendas of the Action Group meetings, facilitates these meetings with process instruments and drafts the annual reports relating to progress, the analysis of obstacles encountered, possible policy recommendations, and the outlook for the actions in subsequent years.
- The core group members
 - The regional authorities are responsible for the creation of social and public support for the innovations and for the multi-level governance issues in their country.
 - The top-level research institutes orchestrate the research questions faced by the underlying projects, and coordinate and share their knowledge and research results.
 - The private companies exchange their knowledge, networks, and strengthen their power in global markets by encouraging trade missions with European partners to the areas mentioned in Annex 7a.

8.2 - State whether IPR considerations are planned (and if so, which)

This is not yet an issue but it will be addressed in the Action Group project workshops.
