

Newsbulletin of the Nexus Project Cluster

– Issue 1 (August 2019)

Launch of newsbulletin – Members of the Nexus Project Cluster

With pleasure we wish to announce the release of a first issue of the News bulletin of the Nexus Project Cluster. Some 21 projects have now joined the Cluster (<http://www.nexuscluster.eu/>) including:

- SIM4NEXUS - Sustainable Integrated Management for the Nexus of water-land-food-energy-climate for a resource efficient Europe. Website: <https://www.sim4nexus.eu/>
- DAFNE - Decision Analytic Framework to explore the water-energy-food Nexus in complex transboundary water resource systems of fast developing countries. Website: <http://dafne-project.eu/>
- UNU-FLORES - UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY Institute for Integrated Management of Material Fluxes and of Resources. Website: <https://flores.unu.edu/en/>
- MAGIC - Moving Towards Adaptive Governance in Complexity: Informing Nexus Security. Website: <https://magic-nexus.eu/>
- CLISWELN - Climate Services for the Water-Energy-Land-Food Nexus. Website: <https://www.hzq.de/ms/clisweln/index.php/en>
- CLEWS - Climate-, Land-, Energy- and Water- Systems. Website: <http://www.clews.online/>
- Biogas from Agricultural Waste to improve water-energy-food nexus in the Aral Sea Basin
- NEXT-AG - NEXus Thinking for sustainable AGRicultural development in Andean countries
- Stepping UP - Water Energy Food: Stepping UP. Website: <http://steppingupnexus.org.uk/>
- 5TOI_4EWAS - Quintuple Helix Approach to Targeted Open Innovation in Energy, Water, Agriculture in the South Mediterranean Neighborhood. Website: <http://www.5toi.eu/>
- BRIDGE - ESRC ES/ N013174/1 (UK research council for economic and social sciences). Website: <https://bridgeproject.net/>
- WEFE-Nexus - Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus: Analysing solutions for securing supply (JRC project)
- Food and the Circular Economy – South West - Modelling supply chain optimisation in the food and beverage industry: helping SMEs in South West England work towards the circular economy.
- Assessing the impact of sustainable land management practices on hydro-electricity production in Malawi (IFPRI)
- Creating Interfaces - Building capacity for integrated governance at the Food-Water-Energy-nexus in cities on the water
- WEFRAH - Water-Energy-Food-Health Renewable Resources Initiative. Website: <https://www.aub.edu.lb/>
- Dam-Mekong - Quantifying Human and Climate Impacts on Wetland Ecosystems in the Lower Mekong River Basin. Website: <http://geo.msu.edu/people/qi-jiaguo/>
- SNAK - Smart Nexus for Agriculture in Korea (Development of Water-Energy-Food Nexus platform associating with climate change impacts)
- WEF Nexus - Human-Environmental Security in Asia-Pacific Ring of Fire: Water-Energy-Food Nexus. Website: http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn_e/
- SUGI Nexus (Metabolic) - Intelligent Urban Metabolomic Systems for Green Cities of Tomorrow: an FWE Nexus-based Approach
- NRD Programme - Nexus Regional Dialogues Programme. Website: <https://www.nexus-dialogue-programme.eu/>
- POWP - Politics of Water Pollution

More information on the individual projects (including duration, start date and end date) is available on the website: <http://www.nexuscluster.eu/>

News from the Nexus Project Cluster

News from WEFRAH

A “design thinking” workshop was held on June 15 at the American University of Beirut campus premises. A team of business developers led AUB-WEFRAH’s first cohort into a process of business modelling of research projects. The respective WEFRAH teams were introduced to the process of taking a research idea into the field of execution and implementation for commercialization or other forms of impact. Each Research team developed their project



to create sustainable enterprises and a business model canvas presenting the project in a strategic and visual format. The purpose of the workshop was to transcend the traditional approach to research into a system of systems thinking and to foster and harness a community of interconnected researchers able to respond to the UN sustainable development goals.

We have produced a new flyer summarizing the vision, purpose and research clusters of the WEFRAH project. See also: <https://www.aub.edu.lb/fafs/WEFRAH/Documents/WEFRAH%20FINAL%2012102018.pdf>. Contact: wefrah@aub.edu.lb

News from UNU-FLORES

- Dresden Nexus Conference 2020: Circular Economy in a Sustainable Society (3–5 June 2020). The programme will explore research and practical examples of sustainable resource management in communities around the world and how these management strategies support the achievement of the SDGs. Focus will be placed on how the Nexus Approach to the management of environmental resources, such as water, soil, and waste, contributes to the realisation and implementation of circular economy principles. The Call for Abstracts for the Dresden Nexus Conference 2020 is published and abstracts are due for submission by 30 September 2019. See also: <https://bit.ly/2YIZP2p>. The organisers welcome abstract submissions for poster and oral presentations, as well as World Café tables. View the Call for Abstracts for more information: <https://bit.ly/2YL1WTC>
- UNU-FLORES Receives AI for Earth Grant from Microsoft. UNU-FLORES has been awarded an AI for Earth grant from Microsoft to help further our efforts in advancing the development of information tools that promote joint action for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. See also: <https://flores.unu.edu/en/news/announcements/unu-flores-receives-ai-for-earth-grant-from-microsoft.html#info>
- UNU-FLORES Congratulates Mahesh Jampani on Successful Doctoral Defence. The lack of a clear understanding of groundwater systems behaviour in peri-urban wastewater irrigation systems motivated Mahesh Jampani to embark on his PhD journey. Having closely worked in a related field, with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) in India, he took up the PhD programme in April 2015. His thesis entitled "Integrated Evaluation of Wastewater Irrigation for Sustainable and Groundwater Development" was set upon his home country, in the banks of Musi River in the peri-urban area of Hyderabad, India. See also: <https://flores.unu.edu/en/news/news/unu-flores-congratulates-dr-mahesh-jampani-on-successful-thesis-defence.html#info>

News from SIM4NEXUS

Mehdi Khoury (University of Exeter, United Kingdom) will organise two webinars to play the innovative Serious Game on the water-energy-food-land-climate Nexus and how to overcome trade-offs in natural resource policies and management. There are two sessions available: 1) Thursday September 19 and 2) Tuesday October 1, both between 11-12 CEST. They will introduce playing the very advanced version of the game and including different game modes, offering guidance to play afterwards individually. Each session is limited to 25 participants, and the first participants have registered. Please register in case you are also going to attend, using the following link: <https://bit.ly/2JtW1K2>. Feel free to share the link in your network. Details on the webinar will be provided in advance.

Comments on the Nexus to the Proposal for Horizon Europe

The General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union published a Proposal for a Decision of the Council on establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The Nexus Project Cluster has introduced an internal consultation on the Proposal (8 February 2019, Interinstitutional File: 2018/0225(COD)). The Nexus Project Cluster has put together a response, with specific contributions from the following participating projects/organisations in the Cluster: [UNU-FLORES](#), [MAGIC](#), [SIM4NEXUS](#) and [CLISWELN](#). The response is on-line at:

<https://www.sim4nexus.eu/userfiles/Deliverables/Response%20to%20Horizon%20Europe.pdf>

Congratulations to Phoebe Koundouri

Congratulations to DAFNE partner Professor Phoebe Koundouri, who was elected President of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE). EAERE is the oldest, largest and most prestigious



Scientific Association of Environmental and Resource Economists. Founded in 1990, EAERE has more than 1200 members in over 60 countries from Europe and beyond, from academic and research institutions, international organisations, the public sector, and the business world. We will seek to identify synergies with our Nexus work.

Interest in a research stay?

Tamara Avellán (United Nations University - UNU-FLORES) has received a request from Roberto Esteban Miguel (INTA, Argentina) who wanted to do a research stay with me, which she had to cancel. He is interested to do Nexus research on the issue of irrigation and groundwater in Mendoza, and he has lots of data. If you are interested, please contact Roberto by sending an e-mail to: estebanmiguel@gmail.com

Nexus Project Cluster - Website

Please visit our website (<http://www.nexuscluster.eu/>) for more information on the nexus projects in the Cluster, or contact floor.brouwer@wur.nl.

