

## Newsletter May 2008

Please distribute this newsletter to your colleagues and other people interested!

### Welcome to CIRCLE!

#### Implementing a European Research Area (ERA) in the field of climate change

CIRCLE is a European Networking project aiming at implementing a European Research Area (ERA) in the field of climate change and adaptation research. The aim of CIRCLE as an ERA-NET is described on our website: [www.circle-era.net](http://www.circle-era.net).

#### 1. CIRCLE News

##### ➤ New CIRCLE partners/observers

CIRCLE welcomes Greece as a new CIRCLE partner. The Mariolopoulos-Kanaginis Foundation for the Environmental Sciences has received legal approval by the government of Greece in 1993 and cooperates with various domestic and international agencies, research centers and institutions.

<http://www.circle-era.net/circle-team/mariapoulos-kanaginis-foundation/>

CIRCLE also welcomes Malta, respectively the Malta Environment and Planning Authority (MEPA), as a new CIRCLE observer.

<http://www.circle-era.net/circle-team/mepa/>

##### ➤ Mediterranean Call

The Mediterranean community within CIRCLE (CIRCLE-MED) launched a joint call in July 2007. The topic "Climate Change, Integrated Coastal Zones and Water Management" is very high on the political agenda of the Mediterranean region. Finally eight projects were selected for a total budget of 1.65 M€.

<http://www.circle-era.net/research-calls/med-call-news/>

### ➤ **Nordic Call**

The Nordic group launched a joint call in October 2007. It was open for proposals until 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2007. The call received eight consortium applications, all including partners from Sweden, Finland and Norway. In the meantime the CIRCLE Nordic call has advanced till the stage of evaluations and decision making. Results concerning detailed information on funded projects can be expected for the beginning of May 2008.

<http://www.circle-era.net/research-calls/nordic-call-news/>

## **2. Other news**

### ➤ **Austria**

#### **Start of „New Energy 2020” – the climate- and energy fund research- and technology programme**

In Austria a new fund – the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund (KLIEN) – was established in 2007. Recently the first call 2008 “new energy 2020” was opened. About 20 Million Euros will be allocated for research and development, especially on the topics energy efficiency, renewable energy and intelligent energy systems.

#### **10th Austrian Climate Day - Research on climate, climate change and impacts in Austria**

The 10th Austrian Climate Day took place on 13th and 14th of March 2008 in Vienna. The aim of this venue was to give an overview of the status quo of Austrian research regarding climate change.

#### **StartClim – Research Programme on climate change and impacts**

The climate research programme StartClim was implemented in 2002 as a response to extensive floods in Austria. It is extended on a year-to-year basis and covers various topics. This year (2008) the focus lies on adaptation to climate change – a quite general focus that was consciously chosen in order to get a broad range of ideas in addition to the ones already covered.

<http://www.circle-era.net/recent-country-news/austria/>

### ➤ **Sweden**

Swedish Climate Committee proposes 75-90 per cent reductions by 2050

A parliamentary committee, representing all seven parliamentary parties submitted its 509 page proposal for a new Swedish climate policy to the Swedish Government on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. The committee’s report will form the basis of the new Swedish climate policy bill planned for the autumn of 2008.

<http://www.circle-era.net/recent-country-news/sweden/>

➤ **Germany**

**Germany launches the “High-Tech Strategy on Climate Protection”**

For the first time, a Strategy on Climate Protection was developed in close cooperation with partners in science, industry and politics. The focus of the High-Tech Strategy on Climate Protection is to bundle forces in terms of research capacities. This strategy links climate protection with innovations that create jobs and ensure prosperity. It defines the research policy guidelines for the coming years, taking into account scientific, technological, economic and financial factors.

<http://www.circle-era.net/recent-country-news/germany/>

**3. Congresses and other announcements**

➤ **7<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Applied Climatology September 29 - October 3 2008**

The conference, that will take place in Amsterdam, is organized under the auspices of ECSN – the European Climate Support Network, a programme of the European Meteorological Network. It will address the themes Understanding of and Adaptation to Climate, and will, among others, focus on Urban environments, Tourism, Health, Agriculture, Energy, Transport and Safety; Climate proofing of water systems; Risk management for (re)insurance and financing and Environment. Deadline abstract submission: 16 may 2008.

<http://eca.knmi.nl/download/flyer-ecac08.pdf>

➤ **COST Strategic Conference April 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> 2008**

COST is an intergovernmental European framework for international cooperation between nationally funded research activities. COST creates scientific networks and enables scientists to collaborate in a wide spectrum of activities in research and technology.

<http://www.cost.esf.org/>

A strategic conference was held in Innsbruck (Austria) from April 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 that may have a direct and effective impact on European research strategies and funding policies. The objective is to provide rationales and guidelines for mountain research agendas and funding agencies.

<http://bfw.ac.at/rz/bfwcms.web?dok=6202>

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