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EXIOPOL Final Event

**Presentation of the European Commission's
DG Research and Innovation's key activities
Brussels, 12/10/2011**

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Scientific Officer





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State of the Union 2011

28 September 2011

European renewal

- ✓ Stability and Responsibility
- ✓ Growth and Solidarity





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EU POLICY CONTEXT

Europe 2020 strategy :

... a strategy for **smart, sustainable and inclusive** growth

Europe can succeed if it acts collectively, as a Union ... the EU can come out stronger from the crisis and... it can be turned into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion.

➡ **INNOVATION** and **RESOURCE EFFICIENCY** to decouple economic growth from unsustainable use of resources are crucial to achieving these objectives





Mrs Maire GÖGHEGAN-QUINN
EU Commissioner with responsibility
for Research and Innovation and for
leading a cross-cutting approach to
innovation.

...Turning a European Union into an *Innovation Union*

“Innovation Union” action plan intends to improve framework conditions and access to finance for research and innovation so as to ensure that innovative ideas can be turned into products and services that generate jobs and growth in a sustainable way

- **Flagship initiative ‘Innovation Union’** EC Comm 06.10.2010

A distinctive European approach
to innovation

by

tackling weaknesses and building
on EU strengths

Some highlights

- European Innovation Partnerships
- New financial instruments
- Public procurement of innovation
- Improved use of Structural Funds
- Stronger monitoring





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...Towards a Resource-efficient Europe

Intensive use of the World's resources, particularly non renewable resources, puts pressure on our planet and also threatens security of supply

Inaction on a business-as-usual basis is NOT an option

- **Flagship initiative 'Resource-efficient Europe'**

26.01.2011



- **Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe** 20.09.2011

Requires a robust knowledge base

- Research and innovation and technological breakthroughs are needed
- Development of indicators on resource efficiency to enable monitoring





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Other relevant policy actions

- **EU Sustainable Development Strategy**
 - Follow up through the European Council
- **EC Communication on Rio +20: Towards the green economy and better governance** 20.06.2011
- **EC Interdepartmental Coordination Group on 'GDP and beyond'**
- **Working Group on Sustainable Development Indicators** (MS and others)





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Environmental EU Research Key Driver for Sustainable Development

Transformative and responsible
INNOVATION

... to move to a low carbon, resource efficient
and climate-resilient economy by 2050.

... innovation for sustainability

Economic, social &
environmental goals





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FP7 Environment Theme (incl. climate change)



FACTS and FIGURES - 2007-2010

- ✓ ENV Theme – 6% of total Cooperation Specific Programme – 1.89 billion euros
- ✓ Implemented through annual Work Programmes - 11 sub-activities
-> coherence and coordination across them
- ✓ From 2007-2010 – 283 projects running - 858 million euros
- ✓ Most are Collaborative projects - 3.5 million euros
- ✓ SMEs share of funding 8.8%





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RESOURCE EFFICIENCY WP 2012 - implementation

- A set of topics in WP 2012 will contribute to improving resource efficiency.
- Budget: 63 million euros
- 2 topics of interest to you:
 - ENV.2012.6.3-2 Policy options for a resource efficient economy
 - ENV.2012.6.3-3 Development of resource efficiency indicators

Closing date: 20 October 2011

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/cooperation?callIdentifier=FP7-ENV-2012-two-stage>





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Working for the EC as an expert for punctual research tasks?

- Tasks: evaluations of proposals, reviews of projects, etc.
- One place to sign up:
<https://cordis.europa.eu/emmfp7/index.cfm>





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Thank you for your attention

