



A Água e o Programa Horizonte 2020 (8ºPQ)

Financiamento da Inovação (Financing for Innovation)

MIGUEL TABORDA

migueltaborda@spi.pt

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Tópicos

- I - The financing challenge**
- II - SIP's envisaged priorities**
- III - Further contributions to the SIP's EIP on Water**

Tópicos

I - The financing challenge

- To make appropriate forms of funding readily available to support key actors and accelerate the innovation cycle, especially for SMEs.
- Several Member States have launched national initiatives and partnerships to stimulate water sector innovation (e.g. France, Netherlands, UK, Spain, Portugal)
- Action is needed to stimulate both the demand and supply of innovative solutions in a collaborative framework between Academia, SME's and Large Water Enterprises to addressing our most urgent environmental challenges.

Tópicos

II - SIP's envisaged priorities

SIP proposes a limited number of strategic priorities and possible actions to improve financing for innovation in the water sector, through an appropriate blending of financial and non-financial instruments. The 3 main priorities (from a impact, urgency and likelihood of quick success standpoint) seem to be:

1. Improve access to finance for SMEs (especially those with potentially disruptive technologies).
2. Incentivize public sector innovation, notably in public procurement, support to the pre-commercial phase of new technologies
3. Develop financial support mechanisms and reduce excess of bureaucracy within the EU for innovative EU companies in water-related export markets.

Tópicos

II - SIP's envisaged priorities

1. Improve access to finance for SMEs (especially those with potentially disruptive technologies)
 - ✓ Challenges / Key issues
 - ✓ Barriers for innovation and bottlenecks
 - ✓ Market opportunities
 - ✓ Possible actions:
 - A detailed sector review of EU national and international experiences with VC and other financing and non-financial mechanisms;
 - Develop a platform for information on access to finance;
 - Create a European vehicle to mix private and public funds for long term venture-capital in water;
 - Set up a Public-Private Investment Financing Facility;
 - Promote PPPs;

Tópicos

II - SIP's envisaged priorities

2. Incentivize public sector innovation, notably in public procurement, support to the pre-commercial phase of new technologies
 - ✓ Challenges / Key issues
 - ✓ Barriers for innovation and bottlenecks
 - ✓ Market opportunities
 - ✓ Possible actions:
 - Financial incentives to public authorities adopting innovative approaches to services and asset procurement;
 - Develop public innovation budget lines at the EU level but also at regional/city clusters level;
 - Technical assistance to public authorities to prepare tender dossiers and evaluate bids;
 - Increase knowledge sharing on technologies, costs and outcomes.

Tópicos

II - SIP's envisaged priorities

3. Develop financial support mechanisms and reduce excess of bureaucracy within the EU for innovative EU companies in water-related export markets.
 - ✓ Challenges / Key issues
 - ✓ Barriers for innovation and bottlenecks
 - ✓ Market opportunities
 - ✓ Possible actions:
 - Review of existing financial support mechanisms to support EU and non-EU water companies operating in export markets;
 - Develop dissemination strategies through regional/national/EU networks;

Tópicos

III - Further contributions to the SIP's EIP on Water

Given the SIP's EIP on Water current priorities:

- Should the priorities be the ones identified?
- Should the possible action lines be the ones already identified?
- Who should be the enablers? How to raise their interest?
- Are our (Portugal's) interests well reflected in the document?
- Links with the Horizon 2020 programme (work in progress) and other structural cohesion funds.
- Financing focus? R&D or Innovation? Both?

EUROPA

SPI PORTO

Avenida Marechal Gomes da Costa, 1376
4150-356 Porto
Portugal
e-Mail: spiporto@spi.pt
Tel: +351 22 6076400
Fax: +351 22 6099164
URL: www.spi.pt

SPI CENTRO

Instituto Pedro Nunes
3030-199 Coimbra
Portugal
e-Mail: spicentro@spi.pt
Tel: +351 23 9700361
Fax: +351 23 9700361
URL: www.spi.pt

SPI LISBOA

Taguspark
Núcleo Central, 349
2780-920 Oeiras
Portugal
e-Mail: spilisboa@spi.pt
Tel: +351 21 4212249
Fax: +351 21 4211201
URL: www.spi.pt

SPI AÇORES

Avenida Príncipe do Mónaco
Bloco 5, 2º Drt
9500-236 Ponta Delgada
Portugal
e-Mail: spiacores@spi.pt
Tel: +351 22 6076400
Fax: +351 22 6099164
URL: www.spi-acores.pt

SPI SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

CEN - Despacho15
Rúa Oliveira 96B
15896 Milladoiro, A Coruña
Espanha
e-Mail: spi@spiconsultoria.es
Tel: +34 981 535 927
Fax: +34 981 535 919
URL: www.spiconsultoria.es

SPI MADRID

Calle Pedro Salinas 11, Edificio
Anexo, 2ª Planta
28043 Madrid
Espanha
e-Mail: spi@spiconsultoria.es
Tel: +34 915 489 949
Fax: +34 915 470 652
URL: www.spiconsultoria.es

AMÉRICA DO NORTE

ÁSIA

SPI VENTURES

Edifício "Les Palaces"
Rua Júlio Dinis, no. 242, 208
4050-318 Porto, Portugal
e-Mail: spi-ventures@spi-ventures.com
Tel: +351 22 6076400
Fax: +351 22 6099164
URL: www.spi-ventures.com

EBN - BRUXELAS

Avenue de Tervuren, 168B
1150 Bruxelas BÉLGICA
e-Mail: ebn@ebn.be
Tel: +32 2 772 89 00
Fax: +32 2 772 95 74
URL: www.ebn.be

SPI CALIFORNIA

2102 Business Center Drive,
Suite 220E
Irvine, CA 92612, USA
e-Mail: spiusa-irvine@usaspi.com
Tel: +1 949 253 5702
Fax: +1 949 253 5703
URL: www.usaspi.com

SPI WASHINGTON D.C.

1050 17th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington DC 20036,
USA
e-Mail: spiusa-washington@spiusa.com
Tel: +1 202 587 2990
URL: www.usaspi.com

SPI PEQUIM

Office 551, 5/F, South Block, Tower C,
Raycom InfoTech Park, No. 2
Kexueyuan South Road, Zhongguancun
Beijing 100190, China
e-Mail: spichina@spi.pt
Tel: +86 10 5982 2143/45
Fax: +86 10 5982 2144
URL: www.spi-china.cn

SPI MACAU

Avenida da Praia Grande,
nº 759, 5º andar
Macau, China
e-Mail: spichina@spi.pt
Tel: +86 10 5982 2143/45
Fax: +86 10 5982 2144
URL: www.spi-china.cn