



Regional action plan about water technology innovation. iWATERMAP Project

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The Region of Murcia is deficient in water resources, but it is a case of success in the optimal management of its water resources.

INTRODUCTION

iWATERMAP project aims to improve policies that favor the development of the water technology sector.

Water sector has great potential to generate innovative products and services that can be exported, which also contributes to the creation of growth and employment in the region.

Economic development priorities have been identified, based on innovation and knowledge and aligned with the existing and potential sectors of the Region of Murcia: Food chain; Environment and water cycle; etc.

So, one of the smart specialization strategies for the Region of Murcia (RIS3) is the articulation of water policy on environmental, economic and social issues in high value-added products with scientific and technological competence.

In the Region of Murcia there is a critical mass in the water sector which includes education-training centers, research and technology centers, companies and public administration.

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE REGION OF MURCIA IN THE WATER TECHNOLOGY SECTOR

- There is support from the Public Administration to generate innovative products and services that contribute to the creation of growth and employment in the region through the water technology sector.

There is an excess of institutions in the area of the water cycle and the agri-food network. As a result, there is confusion about which organization is leading, for example, in relation to the issue of water technology.
- Educational institutions, ranging from Training centers to Universities, are actively involved in providing education related to water technology to students, in such a way that there is no shortage of students, or technicians in the future that guarantee water sustainability in the Murcia region.

Murcia has the right technological centers, however, the forecast of jobs and skills needs can be improved with an interlocutor between all research groups and public administration.
- Murcia has extensive experience in the creation of water research and demonstration projects. Many companies work to provide solutions to the problems caused by the scarcity of water resources.

There is uncertainty among farmers in the Murcia region about the availability of water resources. Water price is high for agricultural use. Work must be done to improve the profitability of companies.

ACTION PLAN

Critical mass

Technological water surveillance

Technology transfer area "Agri-food water"

R+D programm - Agrofood and Water will be areas of specialization of the RIS3Mur 2021-2027

Human Capital

VET iWater Session. Water awareness in the food industry

Water Innovation Training for the Agrofood Sector

VET iWater Session. Companies Open Days

Internationalization

iWater Session. FOOD TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

International Water Network - iNetWater Section in CTCAlimentación magazine

Murcia Food Brokerage Event. Hydraulic technologies in the food sector Area

Work should be done to provide sources of funding for the sector in basic research, applied research, infrastructure, equipment, etc., that guarantee the development of innovative technologies and a sustainable agri-food sector in the Region of Murcia.