



**Press release 29 April 2016**

**European Commission will press "start" for 75MEuros research in climate services at AF2016**

On Tuesday 10 May, at the occasion of the international Adaptation Futures 2016 Conference in Rotterdam, will take place the official “go” to submit proposals for the joint call of ERA4CS, a large scale European Climate Services Research Network gathering 45 European partner organisations from 18 countries, co-funded with the European Union. ERA4CS is an initiative of the Joint Programming Initiative (JPI Climate), where European countries coordinate their climate research to inform and enable the transition to a low emission and climate resilient society in line with Europe’s long-term climate policy objectives.

For this keystone in the history of JPI Climate, Commission’s Director General for Research and Innovation, Robert-Jan Smits, together with his counterpart in the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, Director General Peter Heij, will come to the JPI Climate booth to officially launch the ERA4CS submission portal for this flagship project that is financed by member states with a 33% contribution by the EU framework programme Horizon 2020.

Patrick Monfray, Chairman of JPI Climate and Coordinator of ERA4CS declares: *“This is a historic moment for joint programming in climate research in Europe. ERA4CS with 75M€ commitments proves that member states and the European Commission take their responsibility for serious to tackle the Grand Societal Challenge of Climate Change, all the more after the recent Paris Agreement of UNFCCC. With this ERANET we are able to involve for the first time all together 15 Research Funding Organisations with 30 Research Performing Organisations to forge jointly a smart alignment that ERA needs to optimize resources and impulse a new wave of innovations beyond 2020.”*

ERA4CS is one of the largest projects designed to implement the European research and innovation Roadmap for Climate Services that was published in March 2015 and which sets out a European strategy for action and a framework to develop pathways towards a climate services market that benefits society. In this context, ERA4CS aims to develop easily accessible, timely, and decision-relevant scientific information that can help society to cope with current and future climate variability and change, in order to limit climate-related economic, social and ecological impacts and damages.

**Information for media and all interested in this event:**

10 May 2016 from 13:00 at the JPI Climate booth 1.6 at the Adaptation Expo, in the framework of the Adaptation Futures 2016 Conference (10-13 May 2016)

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