

WATER4ALL
PARTNERSHIP

Water4All

Water security for the Planet

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EU-WB Policy Dialogue
Stakeholder Platform

Digital • Green • Health •



EU-Western Balkans Dialogue Stakeholder
platform, 30th January 2025

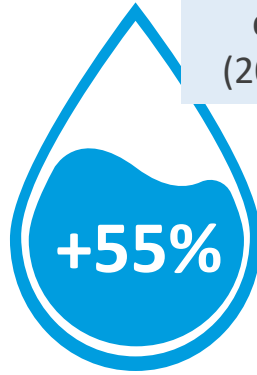
Why Water4All ?

Water, a major issue for

Droughts
Floods
Pollution

Climate change effects

Life on Earth
Ecosystems
Human activities



Global water demand (2015-2050)



Freshwater/EU inhab. (over 20 years)



Spain: - 65%
Malta: - 54%

Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC



37% of surface waters are in good or better ecological status



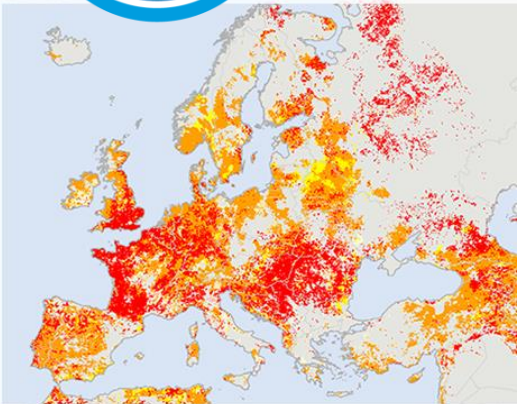
29% of surface waters are in good chemical status



91% of groundwater area is in good quantitative status



77% of groundwater area is in good chemical status



Drought in Europe – August 2022
JRC Global Drought Observatory (GDO) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS) – 22/08/2022

Increase damage on water resource

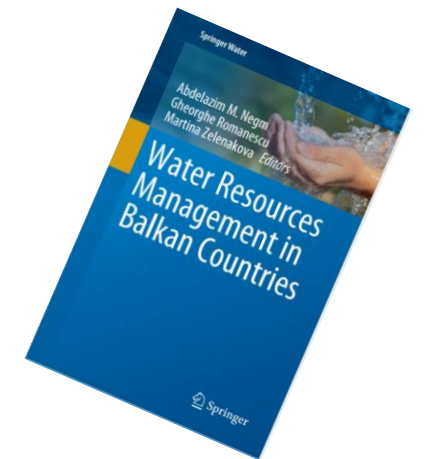
- 90% disasters worldwide are water-related (IPCC)
- Drought in Europe 2022: 19% of normal annual rainfall on 50% of the territory (Europe) (impact on soil, ecosystems, biodiversity...)



* Figures: UN 2023, IPCC 2023

Why Water4All ?

- Water challenges in the Balkans are important:
 - Droughts, floods, ...
 - Access to water for human uses
 - Pollution (urban, agriculture, saline intrusion...)
 - Water monitoring and data
 - Aquatic ecosystems protection
 - Governance
 -



→ A lot has been done but it's not sufficient → need to speed up research and to strengthen international cooperation

Partners



Budget

Phase 1: 86M€, 26M€ from the EC
 Phase 2 : from June 2024: 103 M€, 31M€ from the EC
 For the decade : 420 M€ expected (126 M€ from EU)

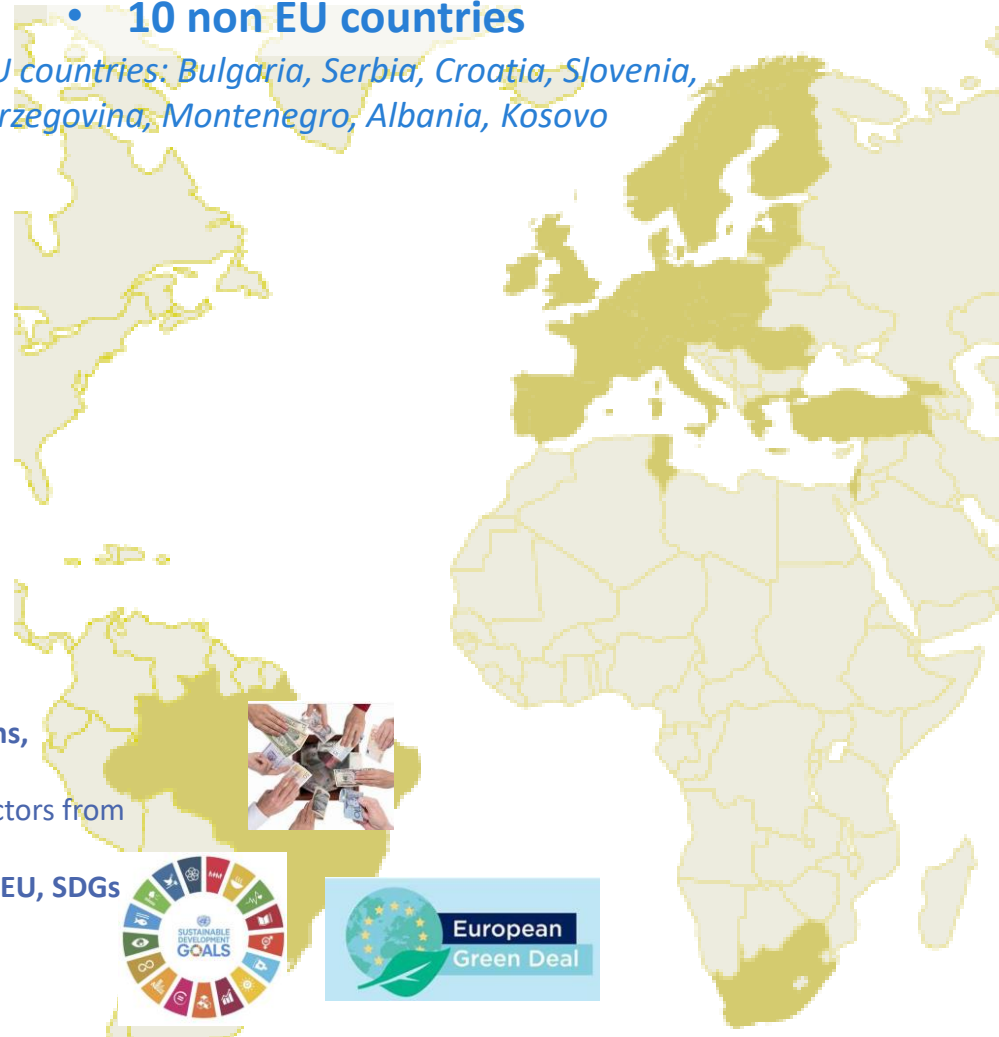
A “new” way of supporting Research

- Gathering our funds
- Cross-sectoral approaches (researchers, policy makers, citizens, economic actors)
- Continuum development to the transfer and practice to the actors from knowledge
- Accelerating the impact of Research on water management (EU, SDGs objectives, WFD and others EU regulations and laws ...)

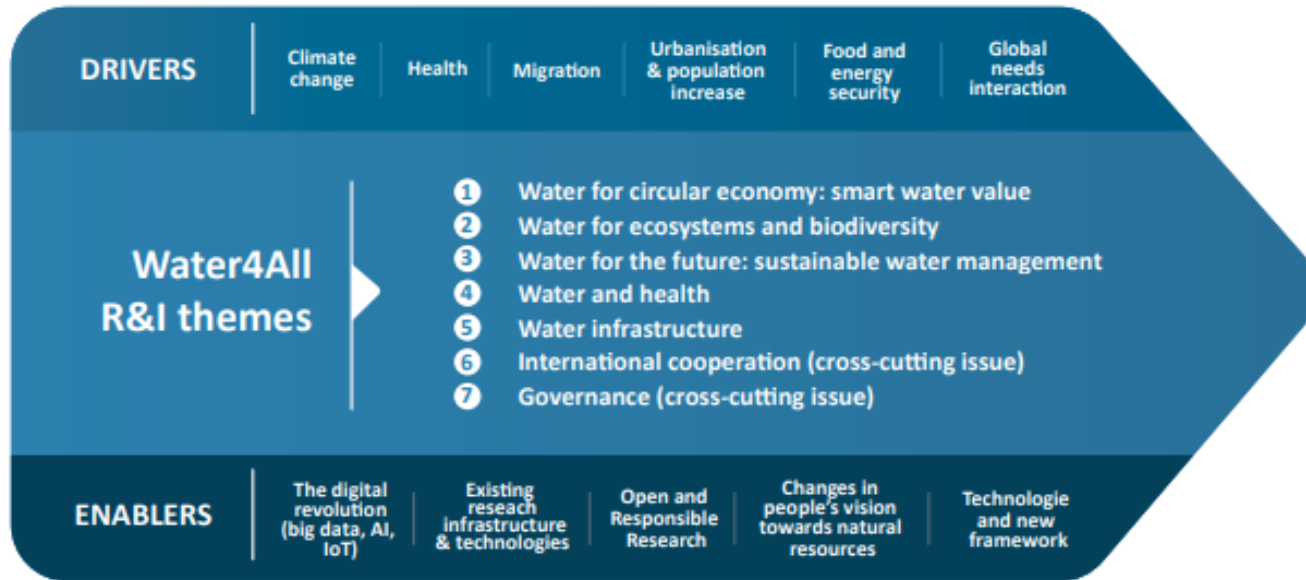
33 countries

- 23 EU Member States
- 10 non EU countries

Missing EU countries: Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Kosovo



RDI themes & Strategic Research Innovation Agenda



**Revision:
End of 2025**

Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda | European Partnership Water4All



Water4All Public Consultation. Survey Powered by Webropol

7 core themes
25 sub-themes

- Research gaps
- Policy needs

After a large consultation process



- Public consultation
- April 2025: experts groups
- New topics?

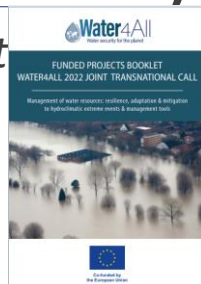
Water4All activities

6 annual Joint Transnational Calls (2022-2028)

Min. of 3 countries, max 7 partners, public-private

1 **2022**
27 projects
27 M€

“Management of water resources: resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events and management tools”



FOR DOWNLOAD

2 **2023**
23 projects
23M€

“Aquatic Ecosystem Services”
Knowledge Hub, early carrier researcher



3 **2024**
Potential budget 32 M€

“Water for Circular Economy”
148 pre-proposals submitted in step 1



4 **2025**
32 M€

“Water and Health”
(pre-announcement: July. Open: Sept.)



“Additional Activities”

Identification of Research gaps, needs

International Cooperation

Training and capacity buildings, PhD Schemes

Observatories and R&I infrastructures

Support to SMEs (EU incubator, transfer...)

Water Oriented Living Labs

Platform of solutions for water management (including ecosystem restoration)

Open data, open science (knowledge hub, open database) with a transdisciplinary approach

TOPICS 5 and 6 to be selected soon (internal consultation)

Main modalities for the Joint Transnational Calls

Main modalities

- 36 months projects
- Minimum of 3 eligible partner from participating countries
- Minimum of 2 independent legal entities for 2 different EU Member States or Horizon Europe associated countries
- Maximum of 7 partners
- Coordinator from an eligible country
- No partner with more than 50% of the person-months

→ *Compagnies are highly invited to join a consortium (according to your national rules)*



Up coming theme :

- 4th Joint Transnational Call (32M€), September 2025, “**Water and Health**” theme from the SRIA
- Working group to focus on priority topics

THEME IV. Water and health	
IV.I. Behaviour and effects of contaminants of emerging concern, litter, plastics, endocrine disruptors.	Contaminants of emerging concern, invasive species
IV.II. Water dimension of anti-microbial resistance.	Monitoring, reduction and control interventions
IV.III. Innovative water tools and technologies for water quality monitoring and water treatment, remediation and disinfection.	Water quality monitoring and treatment, remediation, disinfection
IV.IV. Risk assessment and threshold values for protection of human health and ecosystems.	Exposure, risk assessment procedures, health protection

Water4All's activities

E. Internationalisation (CNR, GSRI, VITO)

- Developing international cooperation agreements
- Engaging with UN Water & other international stakeholders
- Developing innovative tools for cooperation

B. Research & Innovation Development (AEI)

- Joint transnational calls
- Thematic annual programming
- Young researchers calls
- Demo /Transfer calls

A. Joint Vision & SRIA (ANR)

- SRIA Development
- Mapping of programmes and impacts
- Development of synergies / Dissemination

D. Demonstrating Solution Efficiency (Water Europe)

- Water Living Labs (WoLLs) & demos atlas
- Network of WoLLs/demos and roadmap for demonstration implementation
- Support to development of new WoLLs
- Market uptake support
- Liaising with investors

C. Science - Policy - End-users Interface (FORMAS, ISPRA)

- Knowledge hubs, policy working groups
- Support to start-ups creation
- Vocational training
- Capacity building on systemic thinking
- Link to research infrastructures
- Toolbox for managing water data

About the Science Policy End-users Interface (Pillar C)

C.1. Science Policy governance interface (INBO)

Knowledge Hubs (FORMAS)

Policy Support Group (INBO, VMM)

C2. Accelerating the uptake of R&I results by the economic sector (KIT-PTKA)



Supporting the creation of start-ups (Water Alliance)

Priority: Water Framework Directive, Drinking water Directive, Urban Waste-water treatment directive

EU Incubator strategy (Water Alliance)



Training (VITO)

Matchmaking platform (APE)



New Water4All MBA programme

C4. Open Science Open data (BRGM)

R&I infrastructures Observatories (GSRI)

Toolbox for managing water related data (BRGM, DMP)



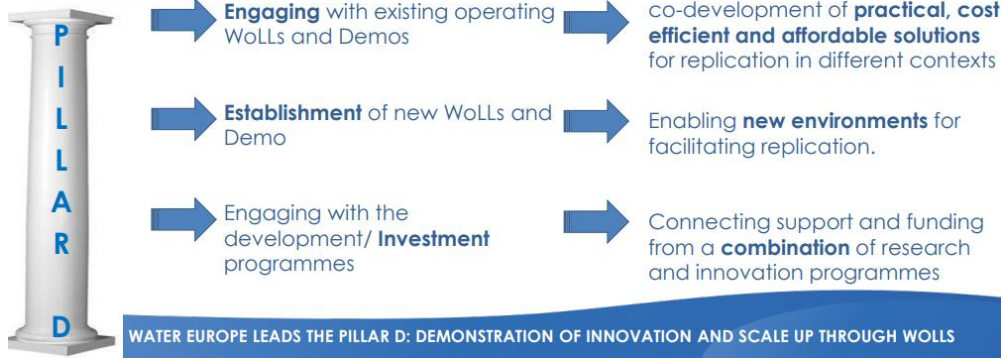
C3. Capacity Development (WETSUS)

PhD Schemes (Wetsus, BRGM)

Engage generation Z (Wetsus, LNEC, CREA)



About the demonstration activities (Pillar D)



ATLAS OF WATER-ORIENTED LIVING LABS 2024

European Partnership

Co-funded by the European Union

LISBON WATER SMART LIVING LAB

Geographical scale: Municipal
WOLL Type: Urban
Year of establishment: 2020

WOLL Introduction

The Lisbon Water Smart Living Lab represents an innovative model aimed at addressing the specific needs of Lisbon, in the face of climate change challenges such as drought, freshwater, and flooding. Through innovation, green-blue infrastructure, sustainable urban development, and the implementation of smart technologies, the Living Lab aims to improve the city's resilience and sustainability. It is a multi-stakeholder initiative that brings together academia, industry, and citizens to co-develop and test innovative solutions for water security and resilience.

WOLL Representative

"Water reuse can help reduce pressure on strategic freshwater resources, support the transition to increased water security, and manage water-related risks through strong, long-lasting partnerships between researchers, technology developers and users."

WATERCLIMATEHUB

Geographical scale: Regional
WOLL Type: Mixed
Year of establishment: 2021

WOLL Introduction

The WaterClimateHub is a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to address the specific needs of the region by promoting the integration of research and innovation in the water sector. It is a multi-stakeholder initiative that brings together academia, industry, and citizens to co-develop and test innovative solutions for water security and resilience.

WOLL Representative

"Trust between stakeholders is key when establishing a WOLL and takes time to build up together in cooperations where trust and money is leveraged to win-win sales for all the partners."



About international activities (Pillar E)

→ International strategy published (to be revised)



→ MoU with the UNESCO-IHP signed (November 2024)



→ Active participation to major international conferences



United Nations

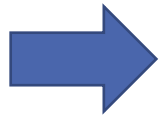


UN 2023 Water Conference
22 – 24 Mar 2023, New York

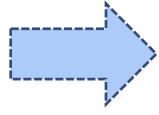


Support to SMEs to showcase their solutions and to learn from others...
To build new international partnerships





Collaborations in progress



Collaborations to be developed



Collaboration opportunities



Funding agencies
Ministries

- Join the partnership and contribute to financially **support future Joint Transnational Calls** (from 2025)
- Contribute to **additional activities** (**revision of the SRIA** and a better integration of CEE countries needs, knowledge hub, Policy Support Group WFD, international cooperation, ...)

OBSERVING PARTNERS BOARD

Research organisations,
networks, clusters, local
authorities

- **Apply to the annual Joint Transnational Calls** if your country participates (without being a partner of Water4All)
- Contribute to **additional activities** (revision of the SRIA and a better integration of CEE needs, international cooperation, dissemination of data, R&I infrastructures, policy support actions WFD..., PhD schemes, support to SMEs, WOLLs...)

Still possible to join JTC4 (without EC contribution) and JTC5 and 6 (with the EC contribution)

**Full member of the consortium from 2026
With the EC contribution (20, 50, 100%)
(Grant Agreement Amendment)**

Water4All financial rules and planning

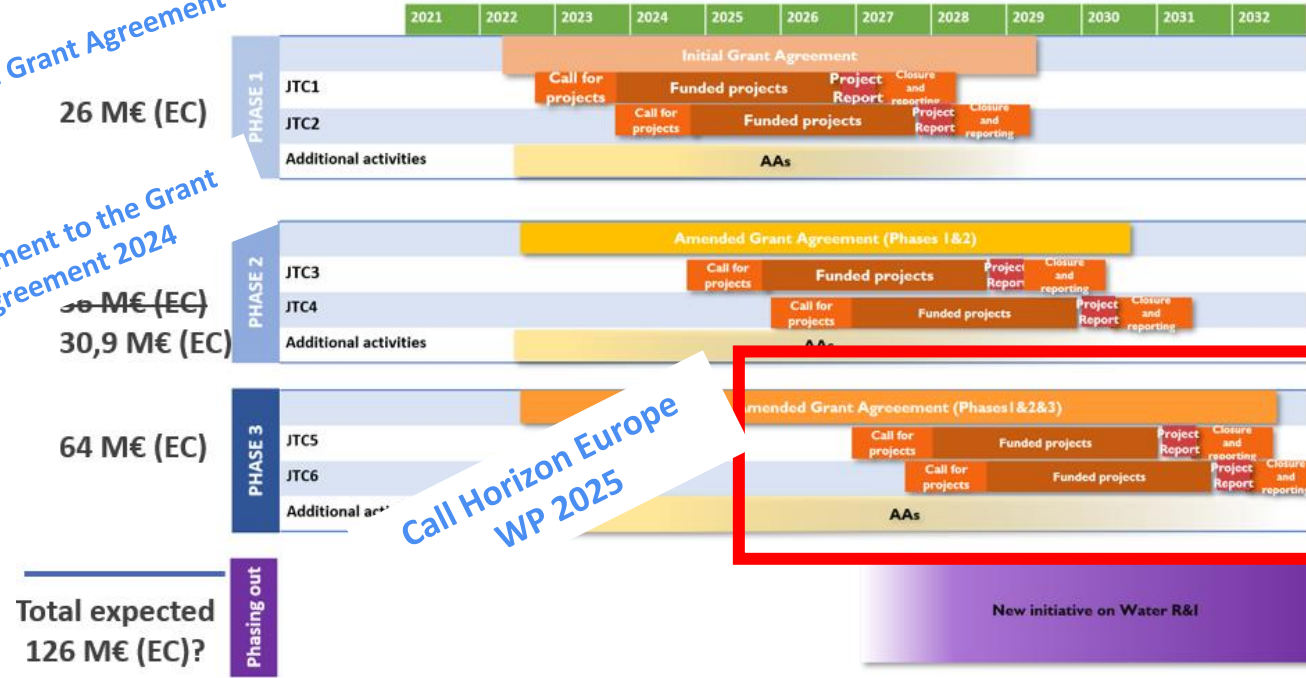


- A budget allocated in 3 phases by the EC
- EC contribution = 30% of the estimated eligible costs of ALL partners
- All partners have to provide in-kind contributions
- Water4All principles for the distribution of the EC contribution
 - For “Beneficiaries” and “Associated entities” only. “Associated partners” (not eligible to Horizon Europe) and “Observing Partners” don’t receive an EC contribution and contribute on their own budget
 - Internal funding rate by cost
- Possible synergy with other EU fundings (e.g., [ERDF](#))

Initial Grant Agreement

Amendment to the Grant Agreement 2024

Call Horizon Europe WP 2025



A 3rd call to support Water4All latest activities (2026-2032) will be published in May 2025 in the Horizon Europe 2025 work-programme

Proposal to be submitted in September 2025

2 JTCs + additional activities (June 2026-May 2032) from the EC: 64 to 70M€

Pillar	EU contribution to eligible costs				
	(U _a) Funding rate on Personnel costs/%	(U _b) Funding rate on Subcontracting costs/%	(U _c) Funding rate on Purchase costs/%	(U _d) Funding rate on Other costs/%	(U _e) Funding rate on Indirect costs/%
Pillar O	100%	100%*	100%*	21%**	30%
Pillar A	50%	100%*	100%*	21%**	30%
Pillar B	50%	100%*	100%*	21%**	30%
Pillar C	50%	100%*	100%*	21%**	30%
Pillar D	50%	100%*	100%*	21%**	30%
Pillar E	50%	100%*	100%*	21%**	30%

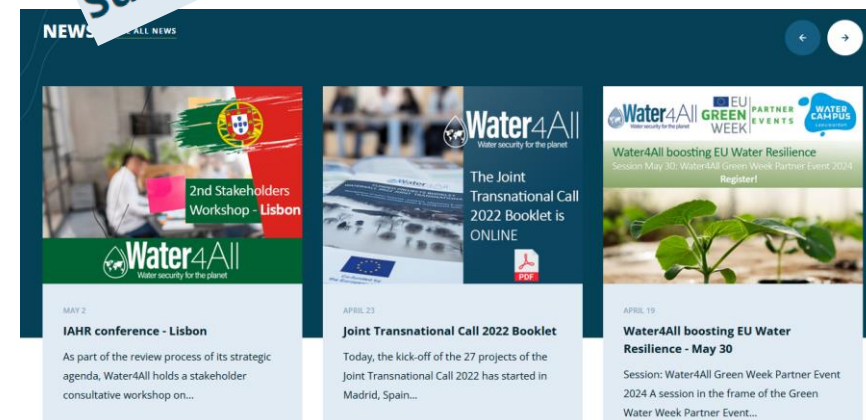
To be changed

(*) the subcontracting costs should not represent more than 50% of the planned EC contribution of the Beneficiary and/or Affiliated Entity, otherwise the reimbursement rate for subcontracting costs drops to 30%.
(**) Equivalent to 27.14% top-up.

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