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INN WATER

Promoting social innovation to renew
multi-level and cross sector water governance

February 2026

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Result Factsheet

INNWATER POLICY BRIEFS

Multi-level and cross sectors governance recommendations

RESULT Type:
Policy related result

[Link to the guide](#)



Owner:  **SIWI**

Contributors:



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Description

The policy briefs present recommendations based on the relevant findings of the three main pillars of improved water governance assessment framework, social engagement and improved economic and financial tools for basin authorities and utilities.

The first highlighted the global water governance challenges and their influence on local and regional water governance. It emphasised the changing conditions for water governance actors due to their shifting contexts and highlighted how the InnWater tools and services can help actors to address these challenges to achieve the related EU directives, and policy aims.

The second addressed citizen engagement and presented the recommendations based on the framework developed for inclusive roadmaps to River Basin Water Forums.

The third will explore the economic and financial tools in light of the EU Water Resilience Strategy. These Policy Briefs constitute a strategic asset for decision-makers, offering concise syntheses of complex issues based on evidence-based data. The added value lies in their integrated approach to the four pillars of good governance (effectiveness, efficiency, trust & engagement, and sustainability & resilience). They are designed to inform policy-making, guide regulatory reforms, and facilitate alignment with EU directives, particularly the EU Water Resilience Strategy. They provide a roadmap for more inclusive and systemic water management, applicable at all governance levels.

TARGET AUDIENCES

EU and Member State Policy-making institutions

to raise awareness and possibly influence policy.

International Organizations (OECD, FAO, UN)

to help in technical expertise

For Others – No specific audience

to encourage knowledge sharing by influence policy.

We specially need

We are actively seeking policy partners, funding institutions, and local water agencies to enhance dissemination and application of our recommendations. Collaboration on integration into national and local legislation, as well as expertise in communication and policy uptake, will maximise impact across jurisdictions.



SDG's

Unique value proposition

InnWater Policy Briefs synthesize multidisciplinary findings, combining governance, social, and economics perspectives for water management. The integrated approach goes beyond sectoral silos; fostering multi-level cooperation and actionable guidance for decision-makers.

Use beyond the project life

These recommendations will remain applicable for guiding ongoing reforms in water governance, informing future legislation, and supporting capacity building for authorities even after InnWater has ended.

Impacts

- **Scientific:** Synthesizes multidisciplinary project research into policy-ready knowledge.
- **Economic:** Improves efficiency of water governance investments (time saved, informed decisions).
- **Societal:** Enhances inclusion, accountability, and transparency in water management at various levels.
- **Environmental:** Supports policies promoting long-term water sustainability and resilience aligned with EU goals.



KEY BENEFITS



Informing and guiding policy and regulatory reforms



Saving decision-makers' time through synthesised information



Enabling systemic change via evidence-based and actionable guidance

Replicability

The recommendations and methods are designed to be replicable across Europe, enabling adaptation to diverse governance contexts, and supporting reliable delivery of policy briefs and methodologies in multiple regions and markets.

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Legal requirements - IPR

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