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INN WATER

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

D6.4: Communication and Dissemination report and monitoring #2

Ananda ROHN (OiEau), Julie MAGNIER (OiEau)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Deliverable D6.4 – *Communication and Dissemination Report and Monitoring #2 (M36)* – provides the final assessment of InnWater's communication and dissemination activities, covering the period M19–M36 and consolidating achievements across the full project duration (M1–M36). Building on D6.3, this deliverable reports on the implementation of the Communication and Dissemination Strategy and evaluates the achievement of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in line with Horizon Europe requirements.

During the second half of the project, communication activities progressively shifted from supporting implementation and stakeholder engagement to highlighting consolidated results and exploitable tools. Particular attention was given to translating technical outputs into accessible formats adapted to policy-makers, basin authorities, practitioners and research communities.

Across M1–M36, InnWater implemented a multi-channel dissemination approach combining events, publications, digital communication and audiovisual materials. Quantitative targets were largely achieved or exceeded. The project recorded 13 conferences, 15 workshops and 13 webinars or structured meetings, complemented by five workshops per Pilot Site and a Summer School in September 2025. The Summer School call became the second most visited page on the project website, illustrating the impact of targeted engagement campaigns.

Digital visibility increased steadily. As of 27 February 2026, the LinkedIn account reached 869 followers, significantly exceeding the initial target of 400. Growth was notably associated with high-engagement moments such as webinar announcements, the Summer School campaign and thematic interviews. Website content was regularly updated through news, event articles and project publications, ensuring continuous visibility of outputs.

Audiovisual production also exceeded initial targets, with a total of 25 videos produced, including interviews, event recaps, three motion design videos and the final General Assembly video recorded during the closing meeting in Szolnok (3–5 February 2026). The motion design series and the final GA video will be published at the end of February, ensuring continuity of dissemination beyond M36.

Scientific and professional dissemination further reinforced project impact, with three peer-reviewed publications and two specialised professional articles (see Section 4.3). Five press releases accompanied key project milestones.

Finally, strategic adaptations strengthened long-term sustainability. The originally foreseen online roadshow and e-book were replaced by the InnWater Governance Platform, which consolidates tools and results in a structured, publicly accessible digital environment. The "Learn About" section especially provides a guided synthesis of outputs, offering a more durable and scalable dissemination solution.

Overall, InnWater successfully implemented a coherent and evidence-based communication and dissemination strategy, ensuring compliance with Horizon Europe requirements while enhancing the accessibility and uptake potential of its results beyond project completion.

Document information

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Related deliverables

D6.1 InnWater Multi-level Communication and Dissemination strategy and plan #V1 explaining the strategy chosen to communicate on the project and disseminate its outcomes.

D6.2 InnWater Multi-level Communication and Dissemination strategy and plan #V1 updating the C&D strategy for the end of the project and beyond.

D6.3 Communication and Dissemination report and monitoring #V1 the first report on C&D activities halfway.

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ACRONYMS

CA	Consortium agreement
C&D	Communication & Dissemination
EC	European Commission
GA	General Assembly
PS	Pilot Sites
WP	Work Package

INTRODUCTION

Work Package 6 includes the communication and dissemination work needed to ensure that InnWater's progress and outputs are visible, understood and shared beyond the consortium. Within this framework, Task 6.1 focuses on building and sustaining the project's Communication and Dissemination (C&D) ecosystem. One of the first deliverables was the development of the Communication and Dissemination Strategy, which sets out the approach chosen to communicate about the project and disseminate its outcomes during the project and beyond. It clarifies the key questions that guide C&D activities over time: who is addressed (target audiences), what is shared (key messages and outputs), when actions take place (planning), and how communication and dissemination are carried out (tools and channels).

Deliverable D6.4, "Communication and Dissemination Report and Monitoring #2", provides the final update of this monitoring work. It builds on Deliverable D6.3, which took stock of InnWater communication and dissemination activities after the first 18 months of the project (March 2023 – August 2024). This second report covers the remaining project period (M19–M36) and consolidates the overall picture up to the end of the project. In this phase, the focus of C&D activities progressively shifted towards the promotion and dissemination of mature outputs, ensuring their visibility, accessibility and potential uptake by targeted audiences.

The overall objectives of the InnWater C&D strategy are to:

- communicate and disseminate InnWater progress, results and outcomes;
- maximise the impact of the project;
- ease the transition from raising awareness on water governance to transferring InnWater results and outcomes to targeted audiences;
- support the pilot sites community (WP5) in their C&D activities;
- provide tailored recommendations to different target audiences;
- provide guidelines and good practices to promote gender-sensitive and inclusive project communication.

InnWater communication aims at promoting the project and its results to multiple audiences beyond the consortium's own community, drawing on the networks of InnWater partners and pilot sites. Target audiences include citizens, water managers and practitioners, public authorities, civil society organisations, SMEs and researchers. Over M19–M36, communication and dissemination activities were implemented to maintain regular project visibility while giving increasing space to final outputs and key results, promoted through the project website, social media, events, webinars, videos and partner networks.

This report combines a qualitative overview of implemented actions with monitoring evidence where available. Information was consolidated through WP6 coordination and other regular project exchanges, based on partners' contributions and shared tracking materials, and supported by evidence such as links, visuals, publications, event materials and analytics extracts whenever relevant.

1. STRUCTURE OF THE ACTIVITIES

1.1 The Communication and Dissemination strategy

InnWater's Communication and Dissemination (C&D) strategy is the reference framework used across the consortium to ensure that outreach activities remain coherent, targeted and useful. It sets a shared approach for communicating about the project and disseminating its outcomes over time, by clarifying the audiences to address, the messages and outputs to prioritize, the sequencing of actions, and the channels and formats used. This framework was established early in the project and was later updated through Deliverable D6.2 (Month 34) to take stock of what had already been implemented, refine priorities for the final months and clarify how InnWater outputs would remain visible and reusable beyond the formal end of the project.

This updated strategy provides the reference baseline for the activities monitored in D6.4 (M19–M36) and supports the shift observed during the final phase of the project: communication efforts increasingly moved from general project visibility towards more result-oriented messages, with a stronger connection between communication, dissemination and exploitation through the focus on Key Exploitable Results (KERs) and other mature outputs.

In terms of channels, D6.2 confirms that InnWater concentrates efforts on a limited set of central communication assets. The project website retains its gateway function and remains the main access point for public results, with dedicated pages that can be directly shared and referenced by partners and external audiences. In parallel, LinkedIn is confirmed as the main social media channel for professional outreach, building on partners' networks and broader visibility opportunities such as the WaterGovernance2027 cluster.

For the end of the project, the strategy gives priority to formats that help package outputs in a concise and reusable way. This includes results factsheets designed to be easily shared, as well as short videos that can support dissemination on social media and be reused in events, webinars or training contexts. A practical guiding principle is to associate each major result (deliverable, policy brief, tool update, key event) with at least one stable digital asset—typically a webpage or a dedicated resource—then relay it through priority channels so that audiences are systematically directed towards material that can be accessed and reused.

The updated strategy also clarifies how activities are monitored and adjusted during implementation. Monitoring is organized through a shared tracking file updated by partners and reviewed through WP6 coordination routines, allowing data to be aggregated against the C&D KPIs and used to steer priorities when needed. In addition, cross-cutting commitments—particularly on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion—frame communication practices and are reflected through the adoption and use of a dedicated GESI charter.

Overall, this strategic baseline supports both the implementation and the consolidation of C&D performance up to Month 36. Building on it, the following sections describe how coordination was organized in practice and how partners contributed to implementing and documenting activities during M19–M36.

1.2 A Communication & Dissemination work force

Partners contributed to communication and dissemination activities by sharing updates on implemented actions, providing supporting evidence (links, visuals, publications, event materials) and relaying InnWater content through their own networks when relevant. Inputs were collected on a rolling basis to keep an up-to-date overview of consortium-wide activities, ensure traceability of evidence, and facilitate the consolidation of monitoring information for the final reporting period.

Coordination exchanges were supported by the dedicated email distribution list (wp6-innwater@oieau.fr), used for transversal communication, requests for inputs and the circulation of short recaps following WP6 meetings. In addition to the monthly WP6 rhythm, information was also captured through other project exchanges such as PMT meetings, bilateral discussions and pilot site-related meetings, to align communication needs with project progress and upcoming milestones.

Monitoring and reporting were organized through a shared Excel tracking file hosted on the project collaborative space (Teams). The file is structured across the main categories of activities (e.g., webinars/workshops, pilot site actions, participation in external events, press and media coverage, publications, website and social media content, audiovisual material) and is used to record basic information and links for each action.

Entries were reviewed regularly, with verification of completeness and supporting links/evidence, and follow-ups when information needed to be clarified or completed. This routine helped maintain consistent documentation across partners and ensured that monitoring data could be reliably consolidated up to the end of the project.

1.3 A regular sharing of contents

During M19–M36, communication planning aimed to maintain regular visibility while reflecting the actual rhythm of project activities. Content was developed on a rolling basis and drew mainly on concrete project developments, including webinars and workshops, partner-led events, pilot site activities, cross-site exchanges and cluster dynamics. Over time, messages evolved from supporting engagement and project momentum to highlighting more consolidated outcomes, with a stronger focus on results and tools in the final months as key outputs became available.

Most publications were structured around engagement moments and project life. Posts and news items were used to announce upcoming sessions, report on participation in events and share short recaps capturing key messages, visuals and takeaways. Pilot site activities played a central role in this communication flow: local workshops, capacity-building sessions, co-creation steps and peer exchanges provided concrete material illustrating how InnWater approaches were implemented and adapted across territories.

In parallel, communication supported external positioning through synergies and cluster activities, ensuring that InnWater messages were connected to broader policy and practitioner discussions beyond the consortium. As results became consolidated, communication increasingly directed audiences towards more stable resources, including webpages, deliverables, factsheets and platform-related materials, so that outreach supported not only visibility but also uptake and reuse.

Planning relied on shared working documents hosted in the project collaborative space. A dedicated file compiling drafts and publication details supported the preparation of social media posts, while an Excel-based tracking file was used to consolidate communication activities and supporting evidence (links, visuals, event materials). Partners contributed by sharing short updates, visuals and links related to their activities and by relaying InnWater content through their own channels where relevant. Drafts and materials were reviewed prior to publication to ensure clarity, coherence and accuracy of links and references.

Rather than presenting an additional quantitative overview of posts, an extract of the internal communication planning tool is provided to illustrate how dissemination activities were structured during the final phase of the project. As shown in Figure 1, the shared planning document organized communication outputs on a weekly basis, linking deliverables, events, Key Exploitable Results and video releases with scheduled dissemination actions across months M33 to M36. This planning approach ensured alignment between project milestones and communication outputs, facilitated coordination among partners and provided clear visibility on the sequencing of final results in the closing phase of the project.

In addition, Annex 1 provides a concrete example of social media posts published during the week of 9–13 February, illustrating the diversity of formats, thematic focus and timing of content shared during the final dissemination phase.

November				December				January					February			
M33				M34				M35					M36			
W45	W46	W47	W48	W49	W50	W51	W52	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9
2025																2026
			24-nov			22-dec										
				D6.2 ; D6.8 ; D6.11				D1.8 ; D2.3					D1.5 ; D3.3 ; D5.4 ; D6.4 ; D6.6			
													MS13 ; MS14			
			TP Meeting 28 Nov										Final GA			
				Event Brussesls												
Post Event Brussels	Video Laurence & Joana	Post on sister projects / cluster	Repost WAREG Post Replication	Event Brussels	Vidéo Eric +++ KPI 1	KPI 2	Christmas		KER 1	KER 2 Video Etifor	KER 3 Post AG	KER 4 & 5 Video Michel	Post during AG - Partner Event		Video Pilot Sites	Video Projet - Plateforme LE
													Press Hongrie	Article Horizon Magazine		
	Video Laurence & Joana			Article	Video Eric			KER 1, 2, 3, 4 et 5								
								Ney Year - Last Year of the project				January 26 – International Environmental Education Day		February 11 – International Day of Women and Girls in Science		
			November 28 - Mediterranean Day	Cluster Event Brussels									Waterborne Days (Waterborne Technology Platform)			

Figure 1 - Extract of the InnWater communication planning tool (M33–M36)

1.4 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion charter

As detailed in *D6.2 InnWater multi-level communication and dissemination strategy and plan #V2*, InnWater has developped a GESI charter and is engaged to actively integrate GESI in all activities throughout a 5 fundamentals principles charter:

- **Inclusive Management Practices** ensuring that all voices, including under-represented groups' ones, are heard in water governance.
- **Integration of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Objectives** in every phases of the project, from conception to implementation.
- **A special attention to Inclusive Communication** to ensure fair access to project information and results.
- **An assessment of InnWater's Impact on Gender and Social Inclusion.**
- **A regular Monitoring of Gender Equality** in the project.

A self-assessment checklist has been distributed to project partners to ensure that these principles are applied during meetings and activities.

The work on GESI has followed a clear path all along the project.

1.4.1 Laying the Foundations for GESI Integration

To guide and assist the InnWater project team on how to integrate GESI in its activities, a small team of partners was initially built to lead an analysis of the aspects related to GESI in the Grant Agreement: what is expected for the overall project, what is already done and what is important to achieved for each of the tasks. Some desk study was also run in parallel, to identify key references to support the work with.

As a second step, the core team of partners organized a series of meetings with WP leaders and partners to discuss their first findings, what are the key actions to collectively engage and how to monitor them. A broader discussion on good practices or barriers identified in previous projects was also held.

On the basis of the feedback received, a draft GESI charter was created, organised around 5 main principles, along with a checklist to support self-evaluation of the actions (see Annex 5).

Regular discussions were held in WP meetings to question and assess the use of the charter.

1.4.2 Analysis of GESI implementation in the WP and project activities

A detailed **analysis** of the integration of the principles of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in the InnWater project was conducted, screening the deliverables, reports and resources developed within the project. This assessment is based on the GESI charter, appended to this document, which defines the principles and good practices to be respected.

The methodology adopted followed several steps:

- Analysis of project deliverables, articles and communication and dissemination material to identify how gender equality and social inclusion issues are taken into account in the various activities and results. Highlighting of overarching findings.
- Identification of good practices already in place "what is done" and gaps that need to be filled to enhance the inclusiveness of the project.
- Proposition of recommendations to improve the integration of GESI principles for the rest of the project and for future similar projects.

Cross-Cutting GESI Analysis: General Findings

- **Collective awareness:** All partners recognise the strategic importance of GESI for more equitable, participatory and sustainable water governance.
- **Existence of a GESI charter**: The charter developed provides a common foundation and shared framework for the entire consortium.
- **First concrete actions**: Certain good practices are already in place, such as raising awareness of inclusivity in communication and taking diversity into account in governance bodies.

- **Absence of standardized GESI monitoring tools**: No framework for tracking gender-disaggregated participation or project impact.
- **Missed opportunities in data collection**: Limited emphasis on collecting and analysing gender-sensitive data.
- **Barriers to inclusive participation**: Women and vulnerable groups face obstacles in engagement and decision-making.
- **Need for enhanced communication**: GESI-related messages are not effectively reaching broader audiences.

1.4.3 Discussion, feedback, what is needed to move forward – main remarks form the meeting

The report was presented and discussed with all consortium partners during a meeting with interactive work (Wooclap).

The main **difficulties** encountered were:

- Absence of GESI-related KPIs
- Lack of consideration of the risks of inequality and exclusion
- No specific mechanisms to ensure the representation of women and vulnerable groups in data collection
- Weak methodologies for ensuring inclusive participation and measuring the impact on marginalised groups
- Lack of adaptations for accessibility of materials and platforms
- Weak integration of GESI into pilot site methodologies and co-creation processes
- Absence of recurring training or monitoring modules on GESI

From the InnWater project, a list of key recommendations can therefore be shared, towards more gender equality and social inclusion on Horizon Europe projects:

- **Develop dedicated GESI indicators and KPIs**: Establish specific indicators and Key Performance Indicators to systematically monitor GESI integration and enable concrete assessment of progress.
- **Ensure representation of vulnerable groups**: Put in place structured mechanisms to guarantee the effective representation of women and vulnerable groups in data collection, co-creation processes, and decision-making.
- **Strengthen evaluation methodologies**: Develop and apply recurring evaluation methodologies and dedicated modules to measure the impacts of activities on marginalized groups and to ensure the accessibility of deliverables (e.g. adapted formats, translations).
- **Provide practical examples and tools**: Equip partners with concrete tools and practical guidance to support the integration of GESI into workshop facilitation, communication activities, and governance processes.

During the last months of the project, partners focused on implementing the GESI charter, sharing feedbacks and raising awareness on GESI aspects.

1.5 Ethics requirements

Partners addressed as carefully as possible ethics requirements all along the project, with for example authorization forms to use image and voice, warning of participants to any recorded activity (webinar), or GDPR-compliant management of data.

A special attention was paid to the involvement of young citizens in activities in La Réunion. The activity was carried out by a local association called PRODIJ, that works to promote the integration and inclusion of young people, with the support of the European Union, in coordination with the local Mission Sud Réunion. Local missions welcome, inform and support young people aged 16 to 25 who have left the school system, helping them to gain qualifications and find employment.

After having shared understandable information to potential participants, the interested ones signed an authorization to use wordings, as well as pictures and video recordings, in compliance with the GDPR rules.

2. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE INTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Building on the communication planning and editorial approach described in the previous section, this part presents how InnWater communication and dissemination activities were implemented and monitored over the reporting period. It provides an overview of the actions carried out across channels and audiences, and highlights how dissemination activities gradually intensified as project outputs became available.

The section documents the concrete communication activities undertaken, the tools and channels mobilised, and the levels of engagement observed, with particular attention to the final phase of the project. It also outlines the monitoring approach used to track communication and dissemination actions, relying on quantitative and qualitative indicators defined at project level.

By consolidating evidence collected throughout the project and analysing key performance indicators, this part aims to provide a clear picture of the reach, coherence and evolution of InnWater communication and dissemination efforts, and to assess their contribution to the overall objectives of the project.

2.1 Leaflets

Several leaflets were produced throughout the project as practical communication materials to support the presentation of InnWater and its activities. These leaflets were designed to provide concise, standardised information that could be easily used by partners during meetings, workshops and events, and to ensure consistent messages across different contexts.

A **general InnWater project leaflet** was developed to present the project's objectives, scope, duration and consortium. This leaflet served as a reference support for partners, particularly in the early and intermediate phases of the project, and was used to introduce InnWater during exchanges with stakeholders and external audiences.

In addition, a **series of leaflets dedicated to the pilot sites** were produced, with one leaflet per site. These materials combined a common project framework with site-specific information, including local challenges, stakeholders involved and main areas of action. They were primarily used in the context of local workshops, pilot site activities and meetings with territorial actors, supporting the presentation of InnWater at local level and facilitating dialogue with stakeholders.

Finally, a leaflet was produced within the framework of the **WaterGovernance2027 c**luster for a joint cluster event held in Brussels in early December. This leaflet focused on presenting the three projects involved in the cluster and their complementarity, and was specifically designed for distribution during this event to support collective visibility and exchanges (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Example of a leaflet produced during the project (WaterGovernance2027 cluster leaflet).

All leaflets followed a concise and harmonised structure and were aligned with the visual identity of the project and, where relevant, of the cluster. English was used as the main language for the general project leaflet and the cluster leaflet, while pilot site leaflets were also made available in local languages when appropriate to support exchanges with local stakeholders.

Overall, these leaflets supported communication activities by providing clear, reusable and coherent presentation materials, adapted to different audiences and levels of interaction throughout the project.

2.2 Icons and diagrams

Icons and diagrams were developed throughout the project to support internal communication and improve the consistency and readability of shared materials. They were used as practical visual elements to help partners structure presentations, illustrate project concepts and communicate key information in a clear and harmonised way.

A **set of icons** was created to represent recurring themes and components of InnWater, such as main areas of work, transversal topics and types of activities. These icons were reused across different internal supports, including slide decks prepared for project meetings, workshops and webinars, as well as selected documents and communication materials, providing visual markers that made content easier to navigate (Figure 3).

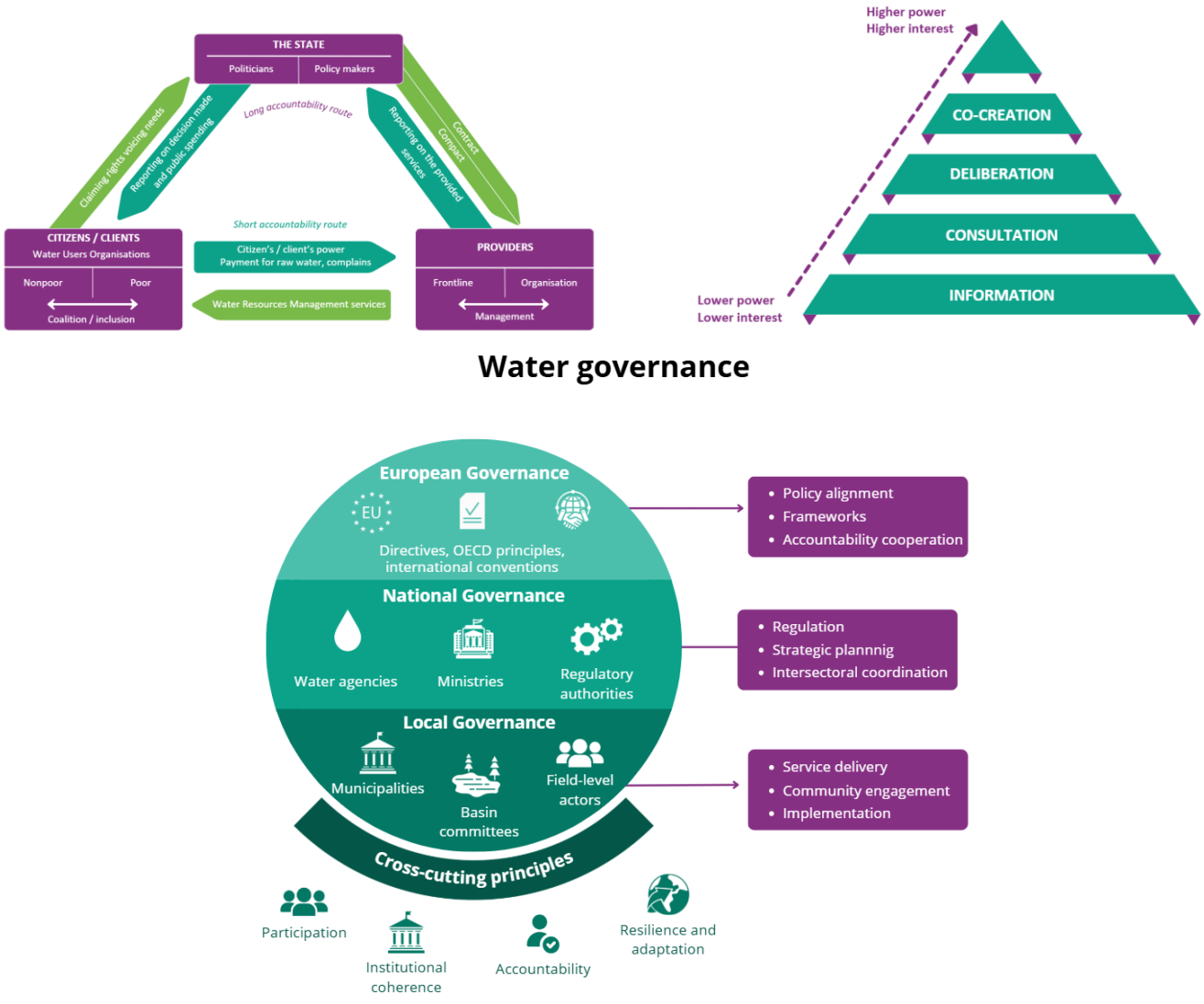

Figure 3: Examples of icons developed and used within the InnWater project

In parallel, **diagrams and schematic** representations were produced to clarify approaches and processes developed within the project. This included simplified process diagrams used to explain methodological steps (e.g., diagnostic work, scenario co-design, deliberative evaluation), conceptual diagrams to support the presentation of analytical frameworks, and synthetic visuals used to highlight links between activities, actors and outputs. These diagrams were integrated in technical deliverables and internal presentations, and were also reused when communicating on project activities and results in external-facing formats when relevant.

Overall, these visual elements supported internal exchanges by providing a shared and reusable "visual language" for the consortium. They contributed to more coherent communication across partners and facilitated the presentation of InnWater activities and results in meetings, workshops and dissemination contexts.

3. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Building on the updated Communication and Dissemination strategy and plan (D6.2), this part reports on the external communication activities carried out during the final reporting period. It documents how InnWater maintained visibility beyond the consortium by mobilising complementary channels and formats, and by regularly sharing project activities, key messages and progressive achievements.

External communication was implemented through the project website and social media as the main digital entry points, complemented by webinars, participation in external events and the production of audiovisual content. These channels were used to communicate on pilot site dynamics and engagement moments, to disseminate project news and highlights, and to progressively direct audiences towards consolidated resources as they became available towards the end of the project.

The following sub-sections describe the main actions implemented for each channel and provide the elements needed to monitor these activities over the period.

3.1 Website

The **InnWater website** acted as the main external communication hub throughout the project. Its overall structure, editorial approach and content organisation are described in detail in the updated Communication and Dissemination strategy and plan (D6.2). The present section therefore focuses on reporting and monitoring website use and performance during the reporting period, based on the available web analytics data.

Website analytics covering the period from September 2023 to early December 2025 show a steady level of activity, with a total of approximately 3,500 unique visitors and close to 4,800 visits. Over the period corresponding most closely to M19–M36, the website recorded around 2,600 unique visitors and 3,500 visits. The bounce rate remained relatively high, around 60–65%, which is consistent with the typical use of a project website where users access specific information and then leave. An overview of website traffic evolution over the period is presented in Figure 4.

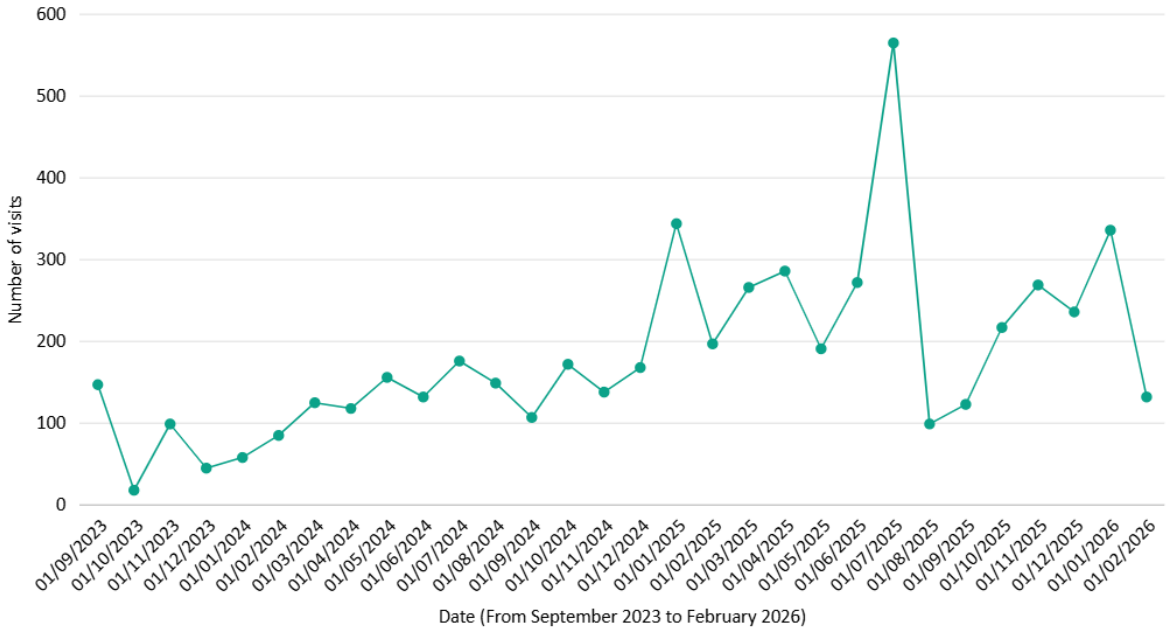

Figure 4: InnWater website traffic trend (Sep 2023–Dec 2025)

Beyond overall volumes, the analysis highlights **several periods of increased traffic** in both 2024 and 2025, linked to key project communication moments. In 2024, communication related to the Summer School generated a visible increase in visits. In 2025, more pronounced peaks were observed during periods when the website was used to relay time-bound project information, such as participation opportunities, events and webinars, as well as related updates and recaps. These patterns confirm that website traffic was closely connected to the rhythm of project activities and external communication, and was often reinforced by the dissemination of related content through social media channels.

Analysis of acquisition channels provides additional context. The majority of visits originated from **direct access**, accounting for roughly two thirds of total traffic, indicating that the website was largely accessed by audiences already familiar with the project, including partners, stakeholders and recurring users. Search engines represented around 15–20% of visits, reflecting the visibility of key pages such as general project information and time-bound content. Social media and referrals from external websites accounted for a smaller but significant share of traffic, confirming their role as relays directing users towards specific website pages. The distribution of acquisition channels is illustrated in Figure 5.

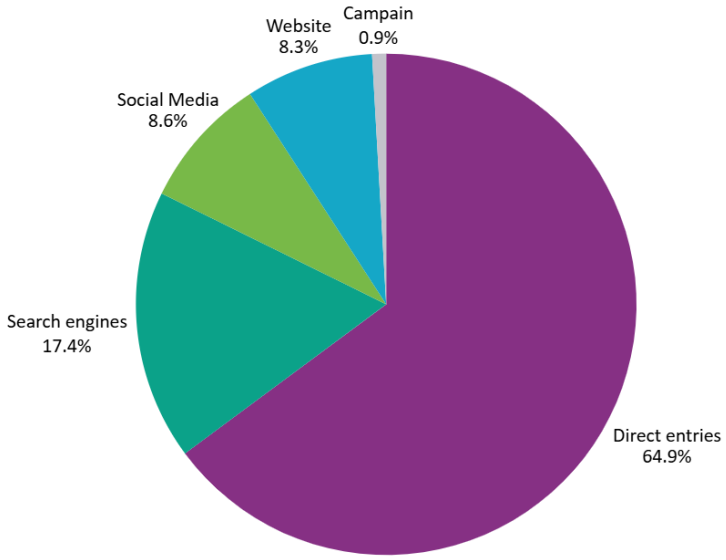

Figure 5: Website acquisition channels (Sep 2023–Dec 2025)

Content performance analysis further shows what effectively drove traffic. The most frequent entry points and most consulted pages were primarily related to time-bound information and engagement moments (e.g., Summer School information, participation opportunities), events and webinars, pilot site pages, and general project or methodological overviews. While some deliverables and publications also attracted visits, they represent a more limited share of entry points compared to activity- and event-related content. A snapshot of the most consulted pages and top entry pages is provided in Table 1 and Figure 6.

Page	Unique views
Homepage	3233
Summer School 2025 – Call for Participants	506
Project summary	442
Open Call for Replication	409
Method	306
Workplan	241
Objectives	213
Latest news	201

Table 1 - Top entry pages and most consulted pages (Sep 2023–Dec 2025)

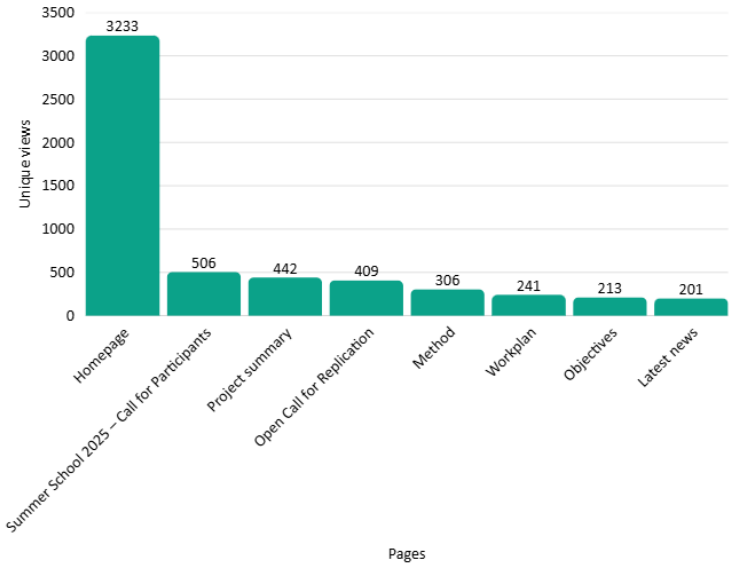

Figure 6: Graphic of top entry pages and most consulted pages

Overall, these results indicate that the InnWater website functioned primarily as a dynamic communication channel, supporting visibility around key project moments and directing audiences towards relevant information and resources. Traffic patterns reflect the timing of project activities and communication actions, and confirm the complementarity between the website and other channels, particularly social media, which contributed to driving traffic to targeted website content, as further described in the following section.

3.2 Social media

Social media contributed to maintaining InnWater's external visibility throughout the final phase of the project by relaying key updates, promoting engagement moments and directing audiences towards project content. The overall social media approach (objectives, audiences, channel selection and editorial principles) is detailed in D6.2; this section focuses on monitoring results and interpretation based on the latest available LinkedIn analytics exports and the review of published content.

Across the period covered by the available exports, InnWater's LinkedIn page showed **steady traction.** The page gained 257 new followers through fully organic growth, confirming that visibility continued to expand beyond the consortium and its immediate networks. Growth was not linear and occurred in bursts: the most significant daily increase was recorded on 7 April 2025 (+36 followers), illustrating how high-visibility communication moments can generate short-term accelerations in audience acquisition (Figure 7).

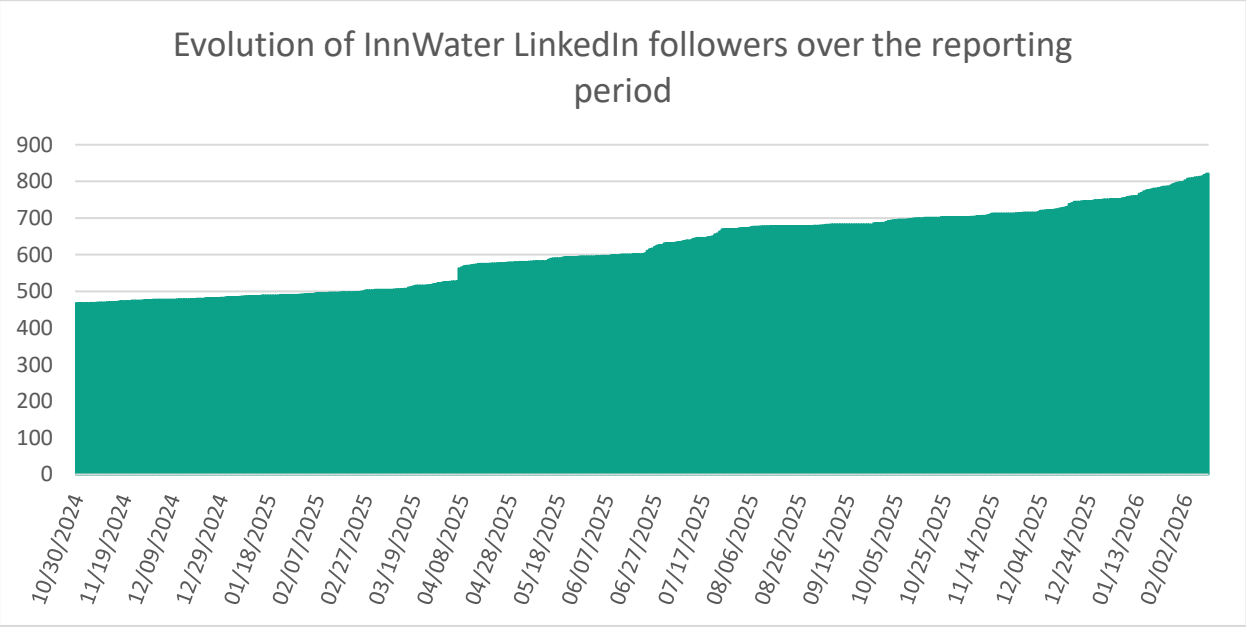

Figure 7: Evolution of InnWater LinkedIn followers over the reporting period

Page visibility data show a similar rhythm. Between 18 January 2025 and 17 January 2026, the page recorded 448 total page views and 234 unique visitors, with the highest monthly visibility observed in July 2025 (92 page views; 48 unique visitors). Additional increases were also visible in March, October and December 2025, indicating that attention towards the page rose mainly

during periods of intensified communication rather than through continuous consultation. This pattern suggests that LinkedIn functioned primarily as an activation and relay channel during time-bound project moments.

In terms of outputs, **the page remained active** with around forty posts published over the covered period. Engagement data confirm that reach was driven by concrete project dynamics: posts generated 20,098 impressions, reflecting repeated exposure of project messages to external audiences. Peaks in activity further highlight the role of specific communication moments, with the highest daily impressions recorded on 24 June 2025 (897 impressions). Overall, the content review shows that performance was not primarily driven by the publication of deliverables, but by three recurring categories that structured the communication narrative: events and webinars (announcements and recaps), pilot site activities (workshops, local engagement and implementation steps), and participation-oriented updates (calls for participation, registrations, opportunities to engage). This confirms that the most visible messages were those that combined immediacy (time-bound information) with concrete project stories and results.

Monitoring also shows a progressive shift in the nature of messages as the project matured. Earlier posts within the covered period mainly documented ongoing processes and engagement activities, helping external audiences follow the project's implementation and the work conducted in the territories. In the later phase, communication increasingly highlighted more consolidated elements (tools, key outputs and final project moments), while keeping a clear link to pilot-site implementation and stakeholder engagement. This evolution reflects the project's maturity curve and supports the transition from activity-based storytelling to result-oriented dissemination towards the end of the project.

Regarding channel use, LinkedIn remained the primary social media platform during the final phase. The project's X account (@InnWater_EU) was discontinued after its latest post in May 2025, and was not used during the remainder of the reporting period.

This consolidation contributed to maintaining continuity and consistency on one main channel, while partner relays supported wider organic reach around key project moments.

Overall, the monitoring data confirm that InnWater's social media visibility was shaped by the project calendar and by the ability to translate activities into clear, time-bound communication moments. Growth and visibility peaks coincide with periods of higher communication intensity, while the content review highlights that engagement was primarily driven by events, pilot site dynamics and participation-related updates, rather than by static content alone.

3.3 Webinars

In continuity with period 1, Pilot Sites ran webinars, workshops or meetings related to their topics, context and objectives (see Annex 3 for more details). The overall aim was to ensure the results delivered by the project are well aligned with the needs and expectations of the local stakeholders from the 5 pilot sites, and that they are usable in different contexts.

As most of the webinars for the second period focused on dissemination, they are detailed in part 4.6.

3.4 Events

InnWater was presented at several events, especially:

- A partners' event in Padova during the 3rd general assembly of the project, on 26th March 2025: exchange with local stakeholders on the challenges of water governance and policy implementation. Hungarian and UK Pilot Sites activities were presented.
- the INBO World general assembly in October 2024 in Bordeaux (France),
- the Euro-INBO Conference in May 2025 in Parma (Italy)

Partners also continued writing articles presenting the project or highlighting activities lead in the context of the project.

Most of the events for the second part of the project were orientated towards dissemination. See part 4.7 for more details.

3.5 Videos

Video content was used throughout the project as a complementary communication tool, alongside written materials and social media outputs, to convey complex messages in a more accessible and engaging way. Videos played a key role in embodying InnWater through people, territories and concrete project moments, while also documenting the evolution of the project from methodological development to the dissemination of consolidated results. The general rationale for using video within the communication strategy is described in D6.2; this section focuses on the nature of the videos produced and on their contribution to communication objectives over time.

A first group of videos focused on **thematic and cross-cutting project messages**, through **interviews** led by project coordinators and key partners. These videos addressed core InnWater topics such as social innovation (interview with Natacha Amorsi), citizen engagement (interviews with Joana Díaz and Laurence Couldrick), sustainable water policies (interview with Simone Iacopino), and, in the final phase of the project, water resilience (interview with Eric Mino). These formats were designed to clarify key concepts, provide expert insights and offer a transversal understanding of the project's objectives and outcomes beyond individual activities.

In parallel, several videos were produced to **document major project milestones and events**, in particular the General Assemblies. During the second General Assembly held in La Réunion in June 2024, video highlights were produced alongside more focused thematic videos addressing the main challenges and specificities discussed during the event. Similarly, a video recap was produced for the third General Assembly held in Padova in March 2025. In addition, interviews were recorded during European events such as the EU Green Week 2024, featuring external

stakeholders (Geneviève Payet, Gilles Hubert and Faïçal Badat), as well as event-based videos related to partner or cluster initiatives. These videos contributed to showcasing the collective dimension of the project and to strengthening its visibility within broader European water governance networks.

A dedicated series of **pilot site videos** was also developed, covering all five InnWater pilot territories: Réunion Island, Middle Brenta, Figueres, West Country and Tisza. Each video followed a similar structure, presenting the local context, key challenges and the approach implemented within the site. This series played a structuring role in the communication strategy by anchoring InnWater's messages in concrete territorial realities and by ensuring balanced visibility across pilot sites throughout the project.

From a temporal perspective, the video content reflects the progressive maturation of the project. Earlier videos mainly focused on ongoing processes, methodologies and engagement dynamics, while later productions increasingly highlighted more consolidated messages, policy-relevant insights and final outcomes. This evolution mirrors the overall communication shift observed across channels, from activity-based storytelling to result-oriented dissemination in the final phase of the project.

An overview of all videos produced within the framework of InnWater, including their titles, year of production, thematic focus, interviewees and diffusion channels, is provided in Table 2.

	VIDEO TITLE	MAIN TOPIC / PURPOSE	INTERVIEWEE(S)	YEAR	FORMAT / CONTEXT	DIFFUSION CHANNEL
1	InnWater Project – Social Innovation	Social innovation in water governance	Natacha Amorsi	2024	Thematic interview	Website, YouTube
2	InnWater Project – Citizen Engagement	Citizen engagement approaches	Joana Díaz; Laurence Couldrick	2025	Thematic interview	Website, YouTube
3	InnWater Project – Sustainable Water Policies	Policy perspectives and water governance	Simone Iacopino	2025	Thematic interview	Website, YouTube
4	Water resilience – InnWater	Water resilience and innovation	Eric Mino	2026	Thematic interview	Website, YouTube
5	InnWater Pilot Site #1 – Réunion Island	Presentation of pilot site	Olivia Ricci and Freddy Huet	2024	Pilot site video	Website, YouTube
6	InnWater Pilot Site #2 – Middle Brenta	Presentation of pilot site	Giacomo Laghetto	2024	Pilot site video	Website, YouTube
7	InnWater Pilot Site #3 – Figueres	Presentation of pilot site	Xavier Turro Ventura	2024	Pilot site video	Website, YouTube
8	InnWater Pilot Site #4 – West Country	Presentation of pilot site	Laurence Couldrick	2024	Pilot site video	Website, YouTube
9	InnWater Pilot Site #5 – Tisza	Presentation of pilot site	Andras Kis and Gabor Ungvari	2024	Pilot site video	Website, YouTube

10	InnWater Second General Assembly – Video highlights	Project milestone – General Assembly	–	2024	Event highlights	Website, YouTube
11	Second General Assembly – Challenges and specificities (EN)	Key discussion themes (EN)	Natacha Amorsi	2024	Event thematic video	Website, YouTube
12	Deuxième Assemblée Générale – Enjeux et spécificités (FR)	Key discussion themes (FR)	Natacha Amorsi	2024	Event thematic video	Website, YouTube
13	InnWater Third General Assembly – Padova	Project milestone – General Assembly		2025	Event recap	Website, YouTube
14	Interview – Geneviève Payet (EU Green Week)	External stakeholder perspective	Geneviève Payet	2024	Event interview	Website, YouTube
15	Interview – Gilles Hubert (EU Green Week)	External stakeholder perspective	Gilles Hubert	2024	Event interview	Website, YouTube
16	Interview – Faïçal Badat (EU Green Week)	External stakeholder perspective	Faïçal Badat	2024	Event interview	Website, YouTube
17	A EU Green Week Partners Event for InnWater	EU Green Week partner event	Julie Magnier	2024	Event video	Website, YouTube
18	Semaine verte de l'UE – évènement partenaire pour InnWater	EU Green Week partner event (FR)	Julie Magnier	2024	Event video	Website, YouTube
19	InnWater – First Policy Brief	Promotion of Policy Brief #1	Julie Magnier	2024	Policy dissemination video	Website, YouTube
20	InnWater's first Policy Brief – Key messages	Key messages of Policy Brief #1	Julie Magnier	2024	Policy dissemination video	Website, YouTube
21	Cassandra Conference	Participation in external conference	–	n/a	Event video (HeyGen)	Website (HeyGen)

Table 2: Overview of videos produced within the InnWater project

4. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE DISSEMINATION

Dissemination activities within InnWater focus on supporting the transfer and potential uptake of the project's results beyond the consortium. As project outputs progressively matured, particularly during the M19–M36 period, dissemination efforts increasingly targeted the sharing of consolidated knowledge, tools and lessons learned with external audiences.

Dissemination relied on a combination of formats and channels, including public deliverables, policy briefs, factsheets, events, webinars and training-oriented activities, often relayed through the project website and partners' networks. These activities also supported other work packages, in particular the Pilot Sites, by facilitating replication, peer exchange and capacity building.

The following sections describe and analyse the main dissemination activities implemented during the reporting period, with a focus on their role and contribution to the dissemination objectives of the project.

4.1 Public deliverables

Public deliverables constitute a core component of InnWater's dissemination framework by providing structured and openly accessible resources documenting the project's methods, tools and results. All public deliverables produced during the project have been made available through the project website, ensuring transparency and access to project outputs for external audiences.

During the M19–M36 period, dissemination efforts focused primarily on deliverables corresponding to consolidated outputs, including methodological reports, governance assessment tools, pilot site implementation guidelines and policy-oriented documents. These deliverables were mainly used as reference materials to support knowledge transfer, capacity building and information sharing, rather than as standalone communication products.

As indicated in the table 3 above, several deliverables with due dates in the final phase of the project (M36) were still under finalisation at the time of reporting and were therefore not yet published on the website. Their availability will be ensured upon completion, in line with the project's dissemination commitments.

Overall, public deliverables supported dissemination by providing stable, citable and reusable resources, contributing to the visibility and accessibility of InnWater results in coherence with the dissemination approach defined in D6.2 and the monitoring framework established in D6.3.

N°	Deliverable Name	Work Package	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Due Date
D1.10	Synergies with the CL6-2022-01-06 clustered projects	WP1	OIEAU	Report	12
D2.1	Enhanced water governance assessment tool	WP2	EUI	Report	18
D2.2	Innovation in water governance: Reference Guide for Programming	WP2	SIWI	Report	24
D2.3	Assessing Water Governance recommendations for water managers:	WP2	ETIFOR SRL	Report	35

D3.1	Citizen Engagement in Europe in the 21st Century	WP3	EUT	Report	8
D3.2	InnWater Citizen Engagement Methodology – A practical guidance tool and analysis framework for creating RBWF #V1	WP3	EUT	Report	18
D3.3	InnWater Citizen Engagement Methodology – A practical guidance tool and analysis framework for creating RBWF #V2	WP3	EUT	Report	36
D4.1	Water Governance diagnostic tool	WP4	ETIFOR SRL	Other	18
D4.2	Modelling cross-sectoral interactions with water at river basin level	WP4	URN	Report	24
D4.3	Methodology for analysing the socioeconomic performance of household water demand management policies	WP4	UR	Report	20
D4.4	InnWater Governance platform #V1	WP4	EUT	Other	18
D4.5	InnWater Governance platform #V2	WP4	EUT	Other	28
D5.1	Preliminary pilot sites implementation guidelines	WP5	WRT	Report	9
D5.2	Final pilot sites implementation guidelines	WP5	WRT	Report	24
D5.4	Pilot sites implementation final report	WP5	WRT	Report	36
D6.1	InnWater multi-level communication and dissemination strategy and plan #V1	WP6	OIEAU	Report	6
D6.10	Policy Brief - year 2	WP6	SIWI	Report	22
D6.11	Policy Brief - year 3	WP6	SIWI	Report	34
D6.2	InnWater multi-level communication and dissemination strategy and plan #V2	WP6	OIEAU	Report	34
D6.3	Communication and Dissemination report and monitoring #1	WP6	OIEAU	Report	18
D6.4	Communication and Dissemination report and monitoring #2	WP6	OIEAU	Report	36
D6.7	Replication methodology implementation and progress #V1	WP6	REKK	Report	18
D6.8	Replication methodology implementation and progress #V2	WP6	REKK	Report	34
D6.9	Policy Brief - year 1	WP6	SIWI	Report	12

Table 3: List of InnWater public deliverables on the website In February 2026

4.2 InnWater second and third Policy briefs

During the second half of the project, InnWater contributed to the production of two policy briefs used as targeted dissemination outputs to translate selected project results into concise, policy-oriented messages. These briefs were developed within two complementary frameworks: one at project level and one at cluster level, reflecting both InnWater's internal dissemination activities and its contribution to joint actions within the WaterGovernance2027 cluster.

The **second InnWater Policy Brief** (Figure 8), titled *Citizen engagement in water* and published in January 2025, was coordinated by SIWI with contributions from OiEau and EURECAT. It synthesised key results from WP3 related to citizen and stakeholder engagement and was used by project partners as a reference document to support exchanges with institutional actors and stakeholders interested in participatory governance approaches. The brief translated methodological results from D3.1 and D3.2 into a concise, policy-oriented format. Within WP6, OiEau ensured the editorial coordination, layout and production of visual elements, including infographics, to facilitate accessibility and readability for policy-oriented audiences.

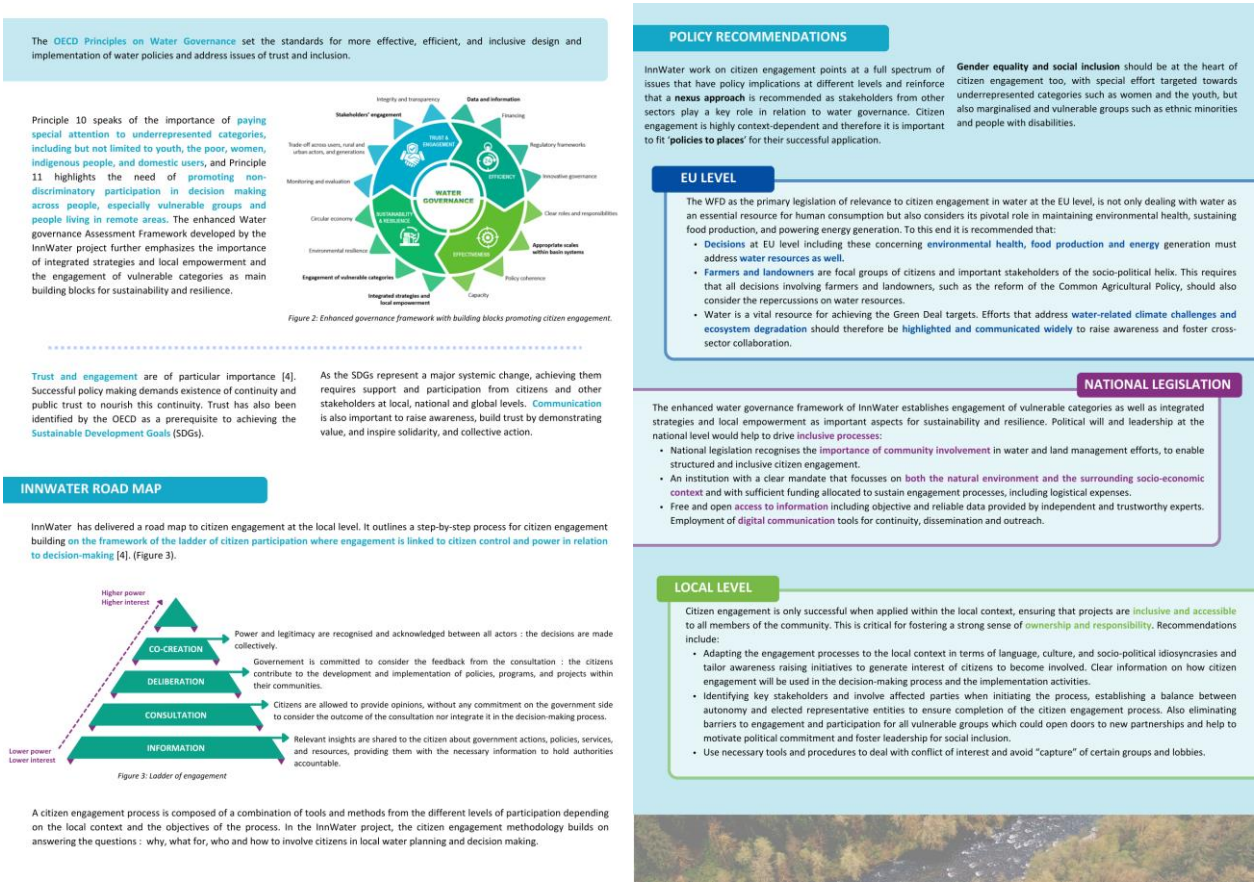

Figure 8: Second Policy Brief of the InnWater project

In parallel, InnWater contributed to the **second Joint Policy Brief of the WaterGovernance2027 cluster** (Figure 9) titled *Leveraging economics for water resilience*, published in January 2026 and coordinated by SIWI in collaboration with GOVAQUA and RETOUCH NEXUS. InnWater partners contributed content drawing on results from WP4 related to economic instruments, WEFE-nexus modelling and governance conditions. WP6 supported the production of the joint policy brief by coordinating the editorial process and designing the layout and visual elements, ensuring coherence across contributions from the three projects. This joint brief was used as a shared dissemination output at cluster level, targeting European policy networks and institutional stakeholders beyond the sole scope of InnWater.

Overall, these policy briefs complemented technical deliverables by providing concise, policy-oriented entry points to selected project results. Through WP6 coordination, they supported dissemination towards institutional and policy-focused audiences at both project and cluster levels, without duplicating other communication and dissemination activities described in previous sections.

TAKE AWAYS

Water resilience depends on aligning economic incentives with governance capacity across sectors and scales.
Economic instruments should support both efficiency and equity, including affordability and water quality objectives.
Combining pricing, incentives, risk-management tools and cooperative approaches is more effective than relying on single instruments.
Economic and WEFE-nexus modelling helps policymakers assess trade-offs and distributional impacts before implementation.
Basin-level and landscape-based approaches are essential to bridge urban–rural and upstream–downstream needs, at the same time fostering solidarity and water resource connectivity.
"Water governance is the foundation for resilience." — Vera Eiro, WAREG's President.

Contact and details

- **InnWater**, Julie Magnier (OiEau), j.magnier@oieau.fr
- **RETOUCH NEXUS**, Maria Vrachioli (Technical University of Munich), maria.vrachioli@tum.de
- **GOVAQUA**, Suvi Sojamo (Syke), suvi.sojamo@syke.fi

MORE INFORMATIONS

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Realisation

- **Author:** Alice JARAISEH (SIWI)
- **Contributors:** Martin HENSELER (URN), Maria VRACHIOLI (TUM), Suvi SOJAMO and Liisa SAIKKONEN (SYKE), Esther DIAZ-CANO and Julio BERBEL (UCO), Julie Magnier and Ankinée KIRAKOZIAN (OiEau).
- **Graphic design:** Ananda Rohn (OiEau)
- **Date:** January 2026

GOVAQUA
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4 Years 11 Partners
6 Living Labs
www.syke.fi
suvi.sojamo@syke.fi
@GOVAQUAproject

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www.retouch-nexus.eu
contact@retouch-nexus.eu
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contact.innwater@oieau.fr
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LEVERAGING ECONOMICS FOR WATER RESILIENCE

2.

JOINT POLICY BRIEF

The overall objective of the Policy Briefs is to highlight how the WaterGovernance2027 solutions can support water related policies implementation and formulate recommendations for their update. This document presents the highlights of the joint Policy Brief #2.

A first joint Policy Brief was release in June 2024, highlighting governance practices and innovative instruments, approaches and arrangements that can support water resilience. This second joint Policy Brief goes a step further by focusing on **economic tools supporting water resilience.**

ECONOMIC APPROACHES TO WATER RESILIENCE

Water is central to a sustainable European economy. Increasing pressures from droughts, floods, pollution and water scarcity are already affecting agricultural and industrial activities as well as, ecosystems, and social well-being across Europe. In this context, policy decisions related to water use and management require **economic assessments** that account for inter linkages between sectors and for interactions between society, economy and ecosystems.

The **EU Water Resilience Strategy (EWRS)** highlights three core objectives: restoring and protecting the water cycle, building a water-smart economy, and securing clean and affordable water for all. Achieving these objectives depends on technical solutions, as well as innovative governance and economic tools that promote efficient, equitable and climate-resilient water use.

Economic tools can play a key role in supporting water resilience. However, their effectiveness depends on **enabling conditions**, with implementation that safeguards affordability and equity. When applied in isolation, economic tools risk underperforming or generating unintended social and environmental impacts.

This policy brief focuses on **economic tools and how they link to innovative water governance**. It presents a structured economic toolbox and highlights the role of economic instruments as well as economic and Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) nexus modelling, including approaches such as Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) and micro-simulation, to support policymakers in designing, testing and implementing water resilience measures across different sectors and at different governance levels.

KEY MESSAGE

1. **Innovative governance is an enabler for effective economic instruments.**
Economic tools require clear regulatory frameworks, transparency, monitoring and stakeholder trust to avoid negative externalities and to support long-term water resilience objectives.
2. **A diversified economic toolbox is needed to balance efficiency, equity and resilience.**
Price-based instruments, incentives, risk-management tools and cooperative arrangements should be combined and adapted to local and basin-level contexts, with explicit attention to affordability, access and water quality.
3. **Economic and WEFE-nexus modelling supports informed and legitimate decision-making.**
Integrated, data-driven modelling, co-designed with stakeholders, helps assess trade-offs, distributional impacts and economy-wide effects, thereby strengthening policy design and implementation.

1 INNOVATIVE GOVERNANCE FOR WATER RESILIENCE

Adaptive governance is essential to ensure that economic instruments contribute to water resilience rather than short-term efficiency gains. Regulatory frameworks should be designed to prevent negative externalities, ensure compliance, and promote transparency and accountability in water use and transactions.

At sub-national level, regional and basin planning should be adapted to the specific hydrological and economic contexts. Basin-level approaches that integrate WEFE perspectives can enhance cross-sectoral coordination and help align water management with broader economic and societal objectives.

At local level, collaboration among citizens, policymakers, researchers and stakeholders, including landowners, farmers and businesses, is crucial to develop a shared understanding of water challenges and to assess feasible solutions. Participatory processes can improve legitimacy, acceptance and long-term sustainability of policy measures.

Water cooperation is required not only across administrative borders, but also across sectors. Coordinated governance of land use, water use, food-production, energy, construction, and other related sectors is necessary to restore productive landscapes and strengthen resilience to climate and hydrological shocks. **Polycentric and multi-level governance arrangements** can support such coordination within basin-level and landscape-based strategies.

The **private sector**, in all its diversity, plays a central role in the economy and water use. Robust water risk and impact assessments should take into consideration the businesses that operate within the catchment and their value chains. Corporate strategies should embrace water issues, with the acknowledgement that the private sector can play a key role in solving water challenges.

Collective action involving public authorities, private actors, research organisations and civil society across governance levels can help move beyond purely efficiency-based towards more resilient and inclusive water governance.

2 ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS FOR WATER RESILIENCE

A broad range of economic instruments can support water resilience when appropriately designed and combined. Increasing **cost recovery**, for example by converting flat rates into volumetric pricing, can improve efficiency and financial sustainability, provided that affordability and access are safeguarded.

Price-based instruments, including both water and pollution charges, as well as **market-based instruments**, such as water banks, buyback schemes, and related trading or transfer arrangements, can incentivize efficient allocation and resource use. Their effectiveness depends on appropriate pricing levels, regulatory oversight and monitoring, as well as on mechanisms to address potential social and environmental risks.

Subsidies and Payments for Environmental Services (PES) can promote desired behaviours and support ecosystem services, particularly in agriculture and land management. These instruments require careful design to avoid overuse, budget inefficiency or perverse incentives, and are often linked to EU and national public funding frameworks. While PES initiatives are often launched by private sector pr public-private partnerships, their effectiveness and appropriate design are strongly contingent on local institutional and socio-ecological conditions.

Risk-management instruments, such as insurance schemes, can help manage financial risks associated with drought, and other extreme events. Their uptake and effectiveness depend on appropriate targeting, stakeholder willingness to pay and complementary risk-reduction measures.

Shared implementation and governance, including Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), voluntary agreements and impact, or results-based investments with blended financing, can enhance infrastructure investment, risk-sharing, and stakeholder cooperation. These approaches can complement monetary instruments and help mobilise private investment, including for nature-based solutions (NbS).

Economic instruments should address water quantity as well as water quality. Incentives for private investments in nature-based solutions, combined with public governance frameworks that build trust and enable PPPs, can contribute to improving **water quality and ecosystem resilience**.

Instrument category	Main policy objective	Governance level	Key enabling conditions (from the brief)	Main trade-offs / risks to consider	Link to EWRS
Price-based instruments (abstraction charges, pollution charges, tariffs, water markets)	Improve water-use efficiency, support cost recovery and efficient allocation	National / basin	Clear regulatory framework; metering and monitoring of abstraction and pollution; transparency; enforcement mechanisms	Affordability and access for vulnerable users; social acceptance; risk of environmental impacts if poorly regulated	Building a water-smart economy; sound water pricing policies
Subsidies and incentives (including PES)	Promote desired behaviours, support environmental services and water quality	EU / national / local	Clear eligibility criteria; stable public funding; monitoring of outcomes; alignment with environmental objectives	Risk of overuse or budget inefficiency; potential perverse incentives if poorly designed	Restoring and protecting the water cycle; modernising infrastructure and practices
Trading schemes (tradable water rights, water banks, nutrient trading)	Enable voluntary reallocation of water resources and improve allocative efficiency	Basin / national	Clearly defined rights; robust governance and regulation; monitoring and enforcement; safeguards for social and environmental risks	Risk of concentration of rights; equity concerns; environmental risks without adequate safeguards	Building a water-smart economy through efficient resource allocation
Risk-management instruments (e.g. insurance schemes)	Reduce financial risks associated with droughts and extreme events	National / sectoral	Appropriate targeting; willingness to participate; complementary risk-reduction measures; enabling policy framework	Limited uptake if premiums are high; potential moral hazard if not well designed	Climate resilience and risk preparedness
Shared implementation and voluntary agreements (PPPs, sector agreements)	Support infrastructure investment, risk-sharing and stakeholder cooperation	Local / basin / national	Trust among stakeholders; clear roles and responsibilities; enabling regulatory environment; coordination across sectors	Complexity of coordination; unequal power relations between actors	Innovative governance; investment in water resilience
Impact and blended finance instruments (e.g. green bonds, impact investments)	Mobilise private finance for water resilience and NbS	EU / national	Bankable project pipelines; transparent governance; alignment with public policy objectives	Risk of misalignment with public goals; need for clear accountability	Financing water resilience and nature-based solutions

For concrete examples on the application of the economic instruments, see the publications of the three projects :

- https://www.innwater.eu/results/deliverables
- https://retouch-nexus.eu/results/#factsheets
- https://www.syke.fi/en/projects/govaqua/result

3 ECONOMIC AND WEFE-NEXUS MODELLING

Economic and WEFE-nexus modelling plays a key role in supporting integrated water governance. By linking water, energy, food and ecosystems across sectors and scales, WEFE approaches help move beyond fragmented, water-only planning towards basin-wide and cross-sectoral strategies.

Models such as Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) and micro-simulation can be used to assess economy-wide impacts, distributional effects, affordability and cost recovery, and to inform pricing and policy design. These tools can support decision-making at different geographical levels, depending on data availability and policy needs.

Modelling is most effective when coupled with participatory and inclusive processes. Co-designing scenario and governance pathways with stakeholders, including authorities, utilities, farmers, NGOs, and citizens, enhances legitimacy, transparency and implementation. Participatory platforms, communities of practice and citizen-science tools can further support this process.

Data availability, digital tools and monitoring systems are core enablers of effective modelling. Interoperable data platforms, joint monitoring frameworks and transparent sharing of assumptions and results are essential to support evidence-based decision-making and adaptive management.

Economic instruments are most effective when integrated within governance and modelling frameworks. Combining modelling with economic tools, such as dynamic water pricing, incentives for nature-based solutions or business cases for decentralized systems, allows policymakers to test trade-offs and assess costs and benefits across sectors.

Figure 9: Second Joint Policy Brief 2026 WaterGovernance2027

4.3 Project publications

During the project implementation, InnWater contributed to knowledge dissemination through the publication of five articles: three peer-reviewed scientific publications in international journals and two practitioner-oriented articles in professional water sector journals. All publications are referenced and accessible via the project website, ensuring transparency and long-term visibility of these outputs.

The **three scientific articles** contribute to the academic consolidation of InnWater's methodological and conceptual framework. They address core themes of the project, including the integration of climate and social dimensions in water governance discourse, integrated catchment management and ecosystem-based approaches, and the development of the enhanced Water Governance Assessment Tool. The latter publication, released in January 2026, formally presents the structure and application of the assessment tool developed within InnWater, detailing its alignment with the OECD Principles on Water Governance and its implementation in pilot sites. By documenting the conceptual foundations and practical testing of the tool in a peer-reviewed context, this publication reinforces the scientific robustness and replicability of one of the project's key outputs.

In parallel, **two articles** were published in Hungarian professional journals targeting practitioners, utilities and public authorities. Although not peer-reviewed scientific contributions, these articles provide detailed technical and economic analyses directly related to project themes. One article presents an econometric assessment of residential water demand elasticity, offering empirical insights relevant for tariff design and demand management policies. The other addresses operational and governance challenges related to territorial water management systems, particularly in the context of increasing drought events. These publications ensure that project-related analyses reach sectoral actors in a format adapted to professional audiences and national contexts.

Taken together, these publications illustrate a complementary dissemination strategy. Scientific articles strengthen the project's academic credibility and contribute to international research debates, while practitioner-oriented publications facilitate applied knowledge transfer within the water sector. This combined approach supports both the validation and the practical uptake of InnWater results beyond the project duration.

At the end of the project, six other scientific articles were also under review.

4.4 InnWater Governance platform

The InnWater Governance Platform constitutes a core strategic output of the project and a central pillar for ensuring the long-term sustainability, visibility and uptake of InnWater results. It was conceived not merely as a digital repository, but as a structured and operational environment enabling stakeholders to access, understand and apply the project's tools and methodologies in their own governance contexts.

In terms of Communication and Dissemination (C&D), the platform enhances structured access to project results, strengthens their visibility beyond the consortium and facilitates knowledge

transfer through a guided and user-oriented digital pathway. From an exploitation perspective, it ensures the practical reuse, adaptation and scalability of InnWater outputs by integrating tools, case-based knowledge and decision-support instruments into a stable digital environment designed for long-term application.

While the project website acts as a public showcase presenting the initiative, its partners, news and key publications, the Governance Platform was conceived as a dedicated environment for practical use. It brings together, in a single space, the main outputs developed within the project and organises them into a coherent pathway allowing users to progressively explore results, understand how they relate to one another and apply them in their own governance contexts. This approach responds to the need to consolidate project outputs and to facilitate their appropriation by users beyond the consortium. Figure 10 illustrates the overall structure of the InnWater Governance Platform and the main modules through which users can explore and reuse project results.

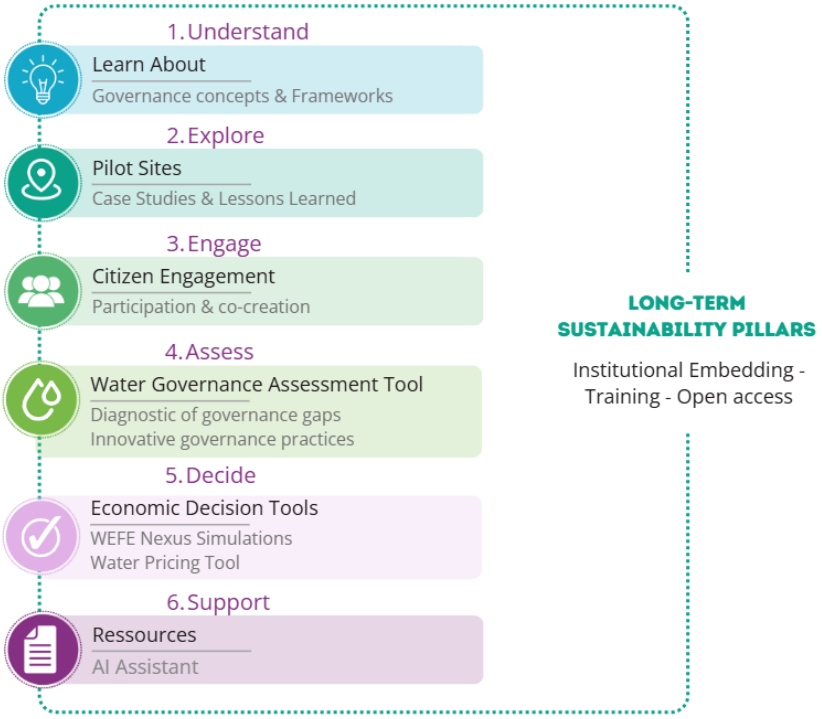


Figure 10: Structure and main modules of the InnWater Governance Platform

The platform is structured around a set of thematic modules, each corresponding to a key dimension of InnWater's work and designed to support different stages of understanding, analysis and decision-making. The **Learn About module** provides a guided and pedagogical entry point to the project by drawing on the full range of documents produced within InnWater, including deliverables, publications and synthesis materials. It plays a mediation role by translating project outputs into a structured learning pathway that introduces users to core governance concepts, frameworks and approaches developed throughout the project.
The **Pilot Sites module** allows users to explore how InnWater approaches were implemented and tested in different territorial contexts. It presents case studies, local governance challenges, implementation processes and lessons learned, thereby supporting knowledge transfer from

concrete experiences and helping users assess how project results could be adapted to other contexts.

Citizen participation and co-creation processes are addressed through the **Citizen Engagement** module, which is based on the work carried out under WP3. This module brings together the project's approaches, methods and lessons learned related to stakeholder participation in water governance and supports users interested in designing, implementing or strengthening participatory processes. By structuring these elements in a dedicated digital space, the platform facilitates the reuse and adaptation of InnWater's citizen engagement approaches in different governance contexts.

A central component of the platform is the integration of analytical and decision-support tools developed within InnWater. The **Water Governance Assessment Tool** plays a key role by enabling users to assess governance gaps, strengths and challenges through a structured diagnostic framework. It supports reflection on institutional arrangements, stakeholder involvement and governance performance, and provides a basis for identifying priority areas for improvement. In parallel, the **Economic Decision Tools** module brings together the project's economic modelling and pricing tools, including WEFE nexus simulations and water pricing components. These tools are designed to support evidence-based decision-making by allowing users to explore trade-offs, scenarios and policy options related to water governance and resource management.

To support learning and uptake, the platform also includes a **Resources** section gathering key project materials, as well as a dedicated AI Assistant to facilitate navigation and access to content. For registered users, the platform offers additional functionalities, including a learning progress tracking feature that allows users to follow their progression across the different modules of the platform. This functionality reinforces the learning dimension of the platform and supports sustained engagement with the project's content.

The Governance Platform is closely articulated with the project website, which serves as a primary entry point for external audiences. A dedicated banner displayed on the project website directs users towards the platform, ensuring visibility and continuity between communication and exploitation tools, thereby creating a structured pathway from outreach activities to practical reuse and exploitation of project results. Figure 11 illustrates how the InnWater Governance Platform is promoted and accessed through the project website, highlighting the complementarity between the two digital environments.

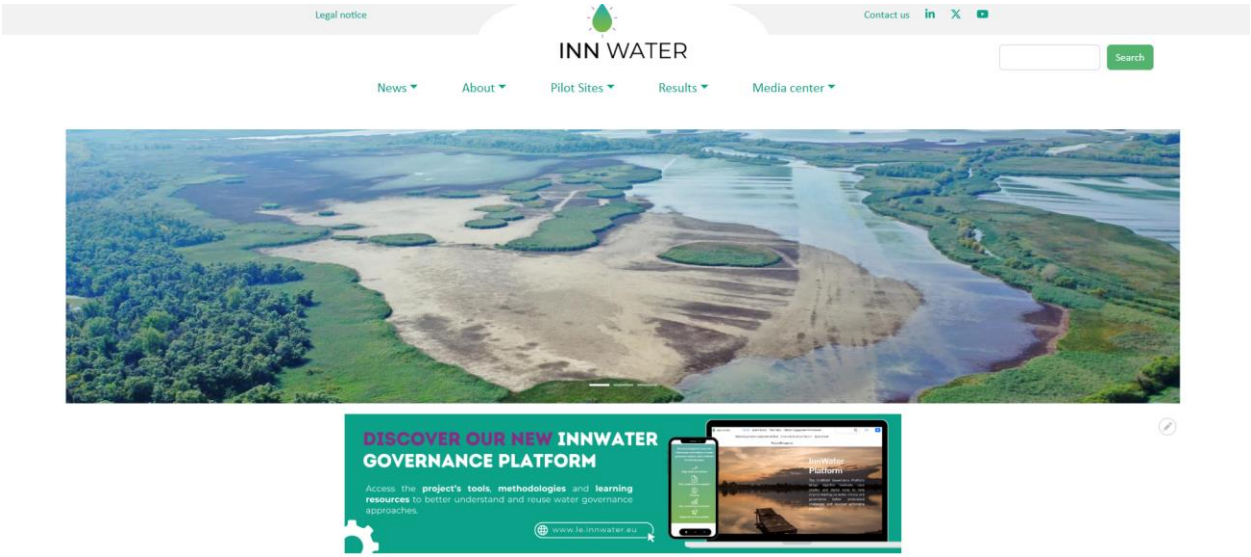


Figure 11: Articulation between the InnWater project website and the InnWater Governance Platform

Overall, the InnWater Governance Platform plays a central role in the exploitation of project results. By structuring access to tools, methods and case-based knowledge and by supporting a step-by-step exploration of InnWater outputs, it contributes to the long-term sustainability of project outcomes and to their potential reuse by practitioners, institutions and other stakeholders interested in improving water governance. By ensuring continued digital access to InnWater tools beyond the project duration, the platform supports post-project uptake and reinforces the sustainability strategy defined under WP6. As illustrated in Figure 2, the homepage of the platform provides a clear entry interface through which users can access the different modules and resources described above, reflecting the structured and user-oriented design of the platform.

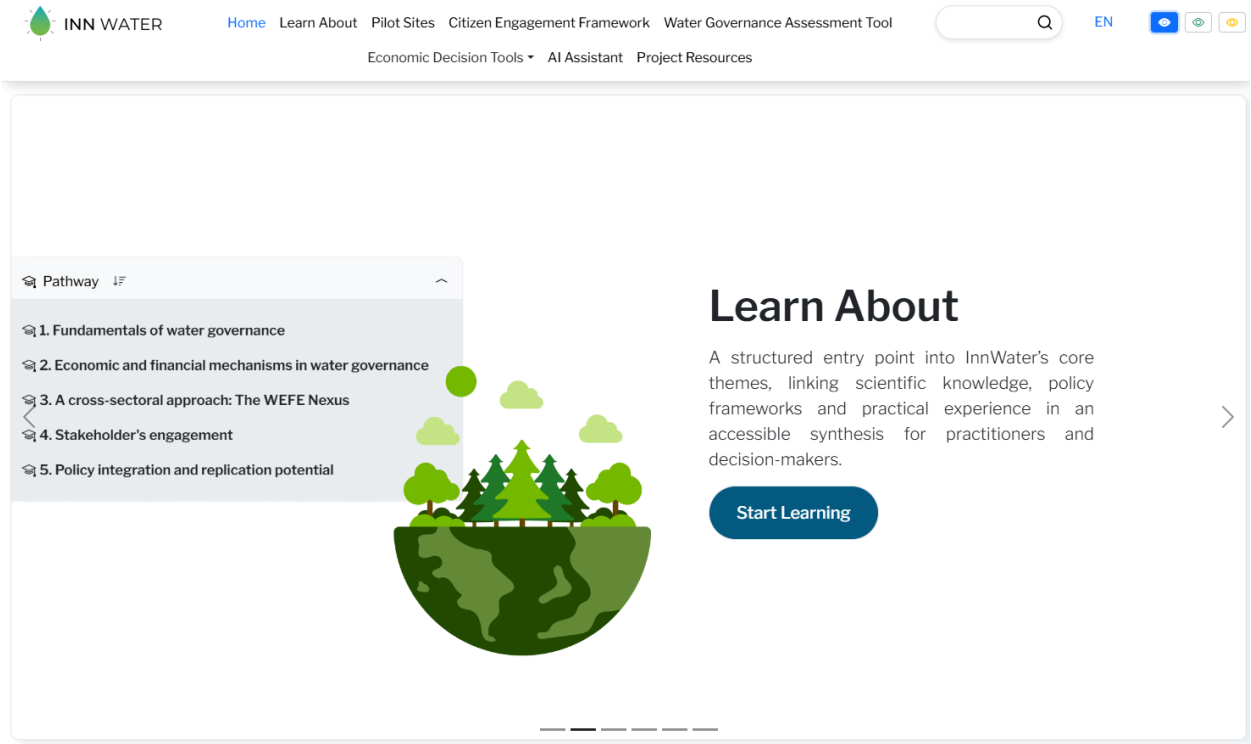


Figure 12: Homepage of the InnWater Governance Platform

4.5 KER & Results Factsheets

As part of its impact maximisation strategy, InnWater identified and progressively consolidated twelve Key Exploitable Results (KER), representing the main outputs with potential for structured dissemination, reuse, replication or further development beyond the project duration. The identification of these results was refined during the second half of the project and formally consolidated at M36 through coordination with the responsible work packages and result owners. This consolidation process enabled a structured mapping of the project's most mature and transferable outputs and supported the transition from implementation to post-project exploitation planning.

From a Communication and Dissemination perspective, the identification and documentation of the KER increased the visibility of InnWater's most mature results and facilitated their structured presentation towards external stakeholders. From an exploitation management perspective, the consolidation process clarified ownership, maturity levels, intellectual property arrangements and potential post-project pathways, thereby strengthening the conditions for sustainability and long-term uptake.

The selected KER reflect the diversity and complementarity of results developed within InnWater. They include policy-oriented recommendations, programming guidance, methodological frameworks for citizen engagement, analytical and economic decision-support tools, pilot site approaches, as well as digital resources such as the InnWater Governance Platform and the AI Assistant. Together, these results combine conceptual, methodological and operational components, illustrating the multi-dimensional nature of the project's contribution to improved water governance practices.

For each identified KER, ownership and contributions were clarified in collaboration with the leading beneficiaries. In several cases, results involved multiple partners, requiring alignment on responsibilities and future perspectives. This clarification phase was essential to ensure transparency regarding the conditions of use and to anticipate post-project discussions related to sustainability, maintenance responsibilities and potential further development.

To operationalise the exploitation framework, a dedicated **Result Factsheet template** was developed and applied to each of the twelve KER. This harmonised format provides a structured and visually coherent presentation of each result, including its description, intended users, maturity level, added value, ownership, intellectual property considerations and potential exploitation pathways. The creation of a common layout and visual identity strengthened the visibility and positioning of the KER, while ensuring consistency across the different outputs. As illustrated in Figure 13, the Result Factsheet format combines concise descriptive elements with a clear visual structure, facilitating both internal alignment within the consortium and external communication towards potential adopters.

Figure 13: Example of an InnWater Key Exploitable Result Factsheet

The preparation of the Result Factsheets also supported an internal consolidation exercise. It enabled partners to assess the maturity of each result, clarify IPR status and identify potential post-project scenarios, such as institutional embedding, further development under new initiatives or continued maintenance of digital tools. Intellectual property considerations were analysed on a case-by-case basis. Depending on the nature of the KER, arrangements include copyrights, potential joint ownership agreements or specific licensing conditions, particularly for digital components requiring hosting and technical maintenance.

At M36, the consolidation of the twelve KER and their associated factsheets provides a clear and structured overview of the project's exploitable assets. Several of these results are directly integrated into the InnWater Governance Platform, reinforcing the coherence between documented exploitable outputs and their practical accessibility in a digital environment. By combining structured documentation, clarified ownership and integration into user-oriented tools, InnWater has established a solid foundation for sustaining and extending the impact of its results beyond the project lifetime.

4.6 Webinars, workshops

InnWater organised or participated to some webinars and online workshops:

- an InnWater webinar on 15th April 2025, to present and discuss recommendations from the second InnWater policy brief to policymakers at local, national, and EU levels.
- a webinar gathering several Horizon Europe projects – AWARD, InnWater and WATERUN – which highlighted complementary methodologies, policy recommendations, and governance frameworks that support sustainable urban water management. Held on 26th February 2026, the event gathered **more than 80** participants, and aimed to foster

dialogue between researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, promote cross-project synergies, and support the uptake and replication of evidence-based solutions across Europe.

- an INBO webinar, where the three sister projects InnWater, GOVAQUA and RETOUCH NEXUS share recommendations from their last joint policy brief about how governance and economic instruments can support water resilience, targeted to river basin managers. This webinar was held on 26th February 2026, and reached more than 110 participants.

Pilot Sites organized **36 webinars, workshops or meetings** with their PS communities over the project (see Annex 3).

Complementary to the Pilot Sites webinars and meetings, transversal webinars were held with all the 5 Pilot Sites, gathering some Pilot Sites communities' stakeholders, Pilot Sites leaders and InnWater partners from other WPs. The first of these webinars was held on November 2023, to introduce the project and discuss with all the stakeholders on their water governance challenges and expectations. The second time was dedicated to the presentation of the work on water governance assessment realized by WP2. The last transversal webinar was held on 20th January 2026, to provide a comprehensive overview of what InnWater has delivered and how its tools can support water governance, citizen engagement, and economic decision-making at local, regional, and EU levels. It was primarily addressed to Pilot Site communities, but also welcomed external stakeholders, including experts, practitioners, and policymakers interested in innovative and integrated water management approaches.

4.7 Events

InnWater partners organised or participated in several events, especially:

- The INBO World General Assembly in October 2024 in Bordeaux, France, where SIWI presented the work done about citizen engagement.
- On 1st October, 2024, Michel Paul, from the University of La Réunion, presented the micro-simulation model (MMS) to around 30 executives from the Crédit Agricole bank of La Réunion.
- On 29 October 2024, Michel Paul, from Université de La Réunion, took part in a training course on water resource management in Réunion and Mayotte. The event, organised by the CNRS and OSU-Réunion, is part of a training programme on ecological transition for government executives. He focused on the 'demand' side of water resource management and also described the decision-support tools developed as part of the InnWater project, to 50 participants.
- The Europe-INBO conference on 20th May 2025 in Parma, Italy, where Etifor presented the Water Governance Assessment Tool and its application in Brenta to river basin managers and national authorities.
- On the 9th December 2025, a demonstration and training event (serious game) was organised to water and sanitation stakeholders in La Réunion as part of a training day, in the context of the French oversee territories Water Plan (Plan Eau DOM) - to Public inter-municipal cooperation establishments (EPCI), Department, public utilities, CCAS, funders,

Regional Health Agency (ARS), State, public performance consultancy firm. This event was the opportunity for the University of La Réunion to disseminate the Water Pricing Assessment tool to 20 targeted stakeholders involved in the development of public policies

- Three workshops were organised by KÖTIVIZIG to disseminate project results between end of 2025 and early 2026.

Three specific **exchanges of experience** were also organised by project partners:

- Figueres, REKK and KÖTIVIZIG organised a dissemination workshop between Figueres and Middle Tisza, to discuss water management in the agricultural sector on 8th and 9th October 2025 in Figueres, Spain.
- Figueres and Etifor organised a dissemination workshop between Figueres and Brenta about conservation and protection of the river environment on 25th November 2025 in Figueres. The session combined local insights on pressures and future challenges in the Muga basin and an experience exchange from the Middle Brenta (Veneto, Italy), focusing on river conservation projects (actions, funding, governance and coordination) and the role of a Basin Council for the future of a Natura 2000 site. The workshop also included a participatory moment to reflect on what lessons could be relevant and transferable to the Figueres context.
- A workshop was co-organised by REKK together with the Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority, where partners from University of La Réunion came to Hungary to present the Water Pricing Assessment tol and discuss the results, analysing the relation between drinking water tariffs and consumption. It was held on the 25th November 2025, in Budapest, for 12 participants.

The InnWater team also organized a **Summer School**, on the 25th and 26th september 2025, bringing together around 40 participants from different profiles. On the first day, the Summer School opened with an overview of Europe's key water governance challenges, explored through InnWater pilot projects. Participants were introduced to analytical tools for sustainable and equitable policy design. In the afternoon, sessions focused on CGE economic models for simulation and policy-making, concluding with discussions on data-driven approaches to managing stressed water systems.

The second day deepened the learning experience with hands-on sessions on microsimulation models—dynamic tools developed within InnWater to support decision-making in complex water systems. Participants then split into two groups: one onsite in La Réunion, applying microsimulation to local contexts (local stakeholders, teachers, Master's students), and one online, addressing water scarcity challenges in Hungary.

A detailed report analysing the surveys sent to participants before and after the event brings sheds some light on the contributions of this summer school and its potential for further use by participants (see Annex 4).

4.8 Videos

During the second half of the project (M19–M36), InnWater developed a diversified set of audiovisual materials aimed at supporting dissemination, visibility and exploitation of project results. In total, eight videos were produced or finalised over this period, combining event coverage, expert interviews and motion design formats.

Two videos were developed in connection with General Assemblies. A first video, produced following the Padova General Assembly, provides a structured overview of the event and its main discussions in a concise recap format. A second video was produced during the final General Assembly held in Szolnok, Hungary, from 3 to 5 February. This video documents the last project meeting and presents the key moments of the closing discussions. It will be published by the end of February.

In addition to these overview formats, **three interview-based videos** were produced to highlight thematic dimensions of the project through expert contributions. One interview features Simone Iacopino, research fellow, who provides reflections situating InnWater's work within broader governance and sustainability discussions. A second interview with Laurence Couldrick (WRT) and Joana Diaz-Pont (EURECAT) focuses on citizen engagement in water governance, reflecting the work carried out under WP3 and its application across pilot sites. A third interview with Eric Mino addresses water resilience and the governance challenges associated with climate pressures. These interviews contribute to strengthening the project's thematic positioning and offer accessible entry points into key concepts and approaches developed within InnWater.

In parallel, **three motion design videos** were developed in the final phase of the project to support the dissemination and long-term exploitation of selected results. These include a dedicated presentation of the InnWater Governance Platform, an explanatory video on the Governance Assessment Tool, and a video introducing the WEFE-CGE model as a decision-support instrument. The three motion design videos will be published within the two weeks following the end of the project, by the end of February. They were designed to translate complex methodologies into concise and structured narratives adapted to water authorities, basin planners and policy-makers.

Overall, the audiovisual outputs produced since M19 combine documentation of project milestones with thematic and methodological dissemination formats, contributing to both immediate communication needs and the longer-term visibility of InnWater tools.

5. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE CROSS-CUTTING STRATEGIC LAYER

The cross-cutting strategic layer ensures that the C&D activities deliver useful and targeted messages and contents. In practice, it consists in being proactive to create awareness on the topics related to InnWater, liaise with other initiatives and pave the way for useful InnWater products and services.

5.1 Linking with partners own initiatives and networks

Our partners make InnWater live also through exchange and collaboration with other projects and initiatives.

- The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) is working towards the promotion and support of Integrated water resources management in national and transboundary river basins, lakes and aquifers. INBO and InnWater share common goals and stakeholders in promoting integrated water resources management. InnWater results are disseminated through INBO's network and events, including links with the GOVAQUA project, and will continue to be beyond InnWater's end.
- OiEau's involvement in the Water4All project also enables regular collaboration, particularly at the science–policy–end-user interface. Water4All brings together 90 partners from 33 countries (2022–2032) to advance long-term water security.
- WAREG is gathering water regulators from European countries and beyond, ensuring a high visibility of the project tools.
- In addition, some partners' links with the OECD support coherence and complementarity, particularly regarding local implementation of water governance principles.

5.2 WaterGovernance 2027 Synergy group

The **WaterGovernance2027 Synergy group** gathers InnWater, RETOUCH NEXUS and GOVAQUA, all funded by the CL6-2022-GOV-01-06 of the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programmes.

The synergy group organized several events to disseminate its work:

- INBO World general assembly in 2024 in Bordeaux, France,
- the Europe-INBO conference in 2025 in Parma, Italy,
- an EURO-INBO webinar in February 2026,
- a contribution to the call for evidence on the Water Resilience Strategy,
- a project leaflet, created by OiEau.

In addition to the activities already implemented, further strategic dissemination actions are being prepared to reinforce the international outreach of the synergy group and of InnWater results. A joint proposal is currently under preparation for a session at the upcoming World Water Week in August. This initiative aims to position the cluster projects within the global dialogue on

sustainable and resilient water governance and to present complementary approaches developed within the WaterGovernance2027 Synergy group.

Beyond the European context, an international engagement initiative is also being prepared in collaboration with the University of La Réunion and the French Embassy in South Africa. A dedicated event will focus on the demonstration of the InnWater water pricing microsimulation tool, including its serious game format, and will explore its replication potential and policy applications. The event will involve the Environmental Policy Research Unit (EPRU) of the University of Cape Town and will address the use of economic modelling tools for evidence-based decision-making and policy nudging in water governance.

The second joint Policy Brief of the synergy group was also promoted and the content discussed during a session within the European Forum on the Regulation of Water Services, organized by WAREG on 4th December in Brussels. WAREG, SIWI and OiEau, together with RETOUCH NEXUS and GOVAQUA, presented key messages from the 3 projects about the economic and financial dimensions of water management. Panelists from different sectors (land owners, Danube lighthouse, regulator) discussed these messages.

6. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The monitoring of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) defined in the Communication and Dissemination Strategy (D6.1 and D6.2) was carried out throughout the project duration (M1–M36) using internal tracking tools, consolidated activity registers, website and social media analytics, and documented evidence provided by partners. The assessment below reflects the overall achievement of targets as defined in the Grant Agreement.

Table 4 presents a consolidated overview of all communication and dissemination KPIs, indicating the target values, achieved results and overall assessment. The following analysis highlights the main results, provides contextual clarification where relevant, and explains strategic adaptations implemented during the project.

Activities	KPI	Done
Organisation of workshops/webinars	>=2 per year	• 14 workshops organized
Organisation project webinars	• Organisation of workshop/ webinar: twice a year • 1 webinar per Pilot site dedicated to training • WP5 KPI: 2 webinars per year for each Pilot site • WP5 KPI: 1 Pilot sites community webinar per year	• 3 transversal webinars • At least 6 workshops/webinar/meeting per PS including training for the latest webinars (See Annex 3) – 36 in total
On-line roadshow		InnWater Platform + Dissemination partner events
Press release	>=2 per year	4: 1 per GA +1 final press release
Non-scientific and non-peer reviewed publications	number of specialized magazines: 3	• 2 articles in journals • 3 scientific publications
Training	Training addressed in several PS webinars	• 1 summer school (September 2025) • 1 dedicated webinar per Pilot site
Social media (LinkedIn + Twitter)	Post once a week	~ 1/week on Linkedin & X
Website	• 2 updates per motnh • Visit >=3000 per month (during the last period of the project)	• 16 News Articles; 9 Events Articles • 9 project's Articles
Press campaign including local media campaign	>=1 per year	• Promoting local citizen engagement (UR) • Social Innovation (OiEau) • Atlas of the Shores (Brenta) • Press releases for annual general assemblies
Participation to events	Conferences>=13, Workshop >=13, Webinars >=13	• Conferences: 13 • Workshops: 15 • Webinars/Meetings: 13 + 2 coming soon
Video - interviews	>=17	25 videos and interviews (3 motion design videos + 1 AG)
Social medial followers	LinkedIn>=400, Twitter>=400	• 869 on LinkedIn • 45 on X
E-book		InnWater Governance Platform, especially "Learn About" section

Table 4: Overview of Communication and Dissemination KPI Achievement (M1–M36)

6.1 Events, Workshops and Capacity Building

The quantitative targets related to events and stakeholder engagement were achieved and, in several cases, exceeded. Over the project lifetime, InnWater recorded participation in 13 conferences, organisation of 15 workshops and delivery of 13 webinars or structured meetings, with two sessions scheduled during M36.

At Pilot Site level, each of the five Pilot Sites organised at least six dedicated workshops, webinars or community meetings, ensuring sustained territorial engagement and reinforcing cross-site exchange and methodological uptake. Three transversal webinars addressed cross-cutting themes and consolidated project-level learning.

Capacity-building activities were strengthened through the organisation of the Summer School in September 2025 and one dedicated training-oriented webinar per Pilot Site. The Summer School represented a particularly visible dissemination moment, generating increased website traffic and social media engagement. Notably, the Summer School call for participants became the second most visited page on the project website, illustrating the impact of time-bound, engagement-driven communication actions on both visibility and stakeholder reach.

6.2 Publications and Media Outreach

Scientific and professional publications contributed to consolidating and disseminating InnWater results. As detailed in Section 4.3 of this deliverable, the project produced three peer-reviewed scientific publications addressing core themes such as water governance assessment, socio-economic analysis and integrated catchment management. These publications support the academic validation and long-term credibility of key project outputs.

In addition, two non-scientific but specialised journal articles targeted professional audiences in the water sector, translating project findings into operational and policy-relevant insights. The project will also apply for an article in Horizon Magazine, which could further extend dissemination to a broader European innovation and policy readership.

Media outreach commitments were fulfilled through five press releases issued during the project, including releases linked to each General Assembly and a final press release at project closure. These outputs ensured structured communication of milestones and key results beyond the immediate project network.

6.3 Digital Communication Performance

Digital communication remained a central pillar of the dissemination strategy. The project website functioned as the primary information hub and repository for public deliverables and updates. During the reporting period, 16 news articles, 9 event-related articles and 9 project-focused articles were published, ensuring continuous renewal of content and structured visibility of outputs.

Website analytics confirm that traffic peaks were closely associated with key communication moments, such as the Summer School call, webinar announcements and selected interviews. The Summer School page, in particular, ranked as the second most visited page on the website, demonstrating the capacity of targeted engagement actions to attract new visitors.

On social media, the project maintained a consistent posting rhythm of approximately one post per week. As of 27 February 2026, the LinkedIn account reached 869 followers, significantly exceeding the original target of 400. Growth was particularly visible around high-engagement content, including the Summer School announcement, webinar promotion campaigns and thematic interviews, which generated increased visibility and redirection towards the project website.

On X (formerly Twitter), the account reached 45 followers, remaining below the quantitative target. Over time, dissemination efforts were deliberately prioritised on LinkedIn, which proved more effective in reaching institutional and professional audiences aligned with the project's target groups. This channel optimisation reflects a strategic allocation of effort based on observed performance and relevance.

6.4 Audiovisual Production and Strategic Adaptations

The KPI for video production (minimum 17 videos/interviews) was clearly exceeded. A total of 25 videos were produced over the project duration, including interviews, event recaps, three motion design videos and the final General Assembly video produced during the closing GA in Szolnok, Hungary (3–5 February 2026). The three motion design videos and the final GA video will be published at the end of February, ensuring continued visibility immediately following project completion.

These audiovisual outputs support both immediate communication and longer-term dissemination of key exploitable results, including the Governance Platform and decision-support tools. Interviews and explanatory videos contributed to attracting additional followers and website visits by translating complex methodologies into accessible formats.

Two originally foreseen KPIs (the organisation of an online roadshow and the production of an e-book) were fulfilled through a strategic and structurally enhanced alternative: the InnWater Governance Platform. Rather than delivering a one-off event or static publication, the project consolidated its methodologies, tools and results into a structured and publicly accessible digital environment. In particular, the "Learn About" section synthesises outputs into guided thematic pathways, effectively achieving the dissemination objectives originally associated with the roadshow and e-book while improving accessibility, scalability and long-term usability.

6.5 Overall Assessment

The consolidated KPI monitoring demonstrates that InnWater successfully implemented a coherent and evidence-based communication and dissemination strategy across M1–M36. Quantitative targets related to events, publications, video production and LinkedIn engagement were achieved or exceeded. The only partially achieved indicator concerns X followers,

transparently addressed through a strategic prioritisation of LinkedIn based on performance and audience relevance.

The integration of key results within the InnWater Governance Platform, combined with sustained stakeholder engagement, scientific dissemination and diversified audiovisual production, ensures continued accessibility and reuse of project outputs beyond M36. Overall, KPI achievement confirms full compliance with Horizon Europe communication and dissemination requirements and demonstrates the strategic coherence of the project's outreach approach.

CONCLUSION

This deliverable has presented the final monitoring and assessment of InnWater's communication and dissemination activities over the full project duration (M1–M36), with a specific focus on the second reporting period (M19–M36). It demonstrates that the project implemented a structured, multi-channel and evidence-based communication strategy aligned with Horizon Europe requirements and with the objectives defined in the Grant Agreement.

Throughout the project, communication actions evolved in parallel with implementation. Early efforts focused on stakeholder engagement and visibility of ongoing activities, while the final phase emphasised the consolidation, explanation and promotion of key exploitable results. Events, workshops, webinars, publications, digital communication and audiovisual outputs were deployed in a complementary manner to ensure both broad visibility and targeted outreach.

Quantitative Key Performance Indicators were largely achieved or exceeded, particularly with regard to event participation, scientific publications, video production and LinkedIn engagement. Where adaptations were implemented notably the prioritisation of LinkedIn over other social media channels, and the replacement of the online roadshow and e-book with the InnWater Governance Platform, these adjustments enhanced strategic coherence and long-term sustainability rather than reducing ambition.

The development of the InnWater Governance Platform represents a structural achievement in terms of dissemination and exploitation. By centralising tools, methodologies and results within a publicly accessible and pedagogically structured digital environment, the project has created a durable resource that extends beyond the project's formal completion. This approach strengthens accessibility, replicability and practical uptake of InnWater outputs.

Overall, the communication and dissemination activities carried out under WP6 contributed effectively to raising awareness, engaging stakeholders and consolidating the visibility of InnWater results at local, national and European levels. The monitoring presented in this report confirms compliance with Horizon Europe communication requirements and demonstrates that dissemination efforts were not only implemented as planned, but strategically aligned with the objective of ensuring continued relevance and usability of project outcomes beyond M36.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Examples of LinkedIn posts

InnWater Governance Plateforme now online announce

LinkedIn	13/02/2026	Posted by : InnWater
💧 The InnWater Governance Platform is now live ! A new digital space designed to explore, assess and strengthen water governance practices across territories. On the platform, you can: 🔷Access governance assessment tools 🔷Explore methodologies and pilot site experiences 🔷Discover policy insights and learning resources 🔷 Connect water, energy, food and ecosystem perspectives Whether you are a policymaker, researcher, practitioner or stakeholder, the platform supports more informed, inclusive and resilient water governance. 🔗 Explore it now: https://le.innwater.eu #InnWater #WaterGovernance #EUProjects #WEFENexus #SocialInnovation #HorizonEurope		

Social Innovation Factsheet – Water Governance

LinkedIn	12/02/2026	Posted by : InnWater

💧 InnWater | Social Innovation in water governance

How can social innovation help address Europe's complex water challenges?
In InnWater, social innovation goes beyond new tools or technologies. It is about rethinking how institutions, stakeholders and communities work together, by combining governance, capacity building and economic approaches to improve water management and societal well-being.

The Social Innovation Factsheet, prepared by **Julie Magnier** and **ANKINEE KIRAKOZIAN** from the International Office for Water (OiEau), highlights how InnWater puts this approach into practice:
🔷 supporting collaborative and multi-level water **#governance**,
🔷 testing co-designed solutions in real pilot territories,
🔷 and translating dialogue and knowledge into actionable governance approaches.

A key element of this work is the InnWater Governance Platform, conceived as a shared digital and methodological space to connect actors, tools and experiences, and to support inclusive, transparent and evidence-based decision-making beyond the project's lifetime.

The factsheet is also available on our project website: **https://lnkd.in/dfrwu4Xb**

#InnWater #SocialInnovation #WaterGovernance #HorizonEurope #InclusiveGovernance #GovernanceInnovation

Repost Webinar AWARD x WATERUN x InnWater

LinkedIn	11/02/2026	Posted by : InnWater

Save the date | Joint webinar

We are pleased to invite you to a joint online webinar organised by AWARD_HEU, EU PROJECT WATERUN and InnWater, dedicated to sustainable water management and policy recommendations for climate-resilient cities.

- 📅 26 February 2026
- 🕑 14:00–15:30 CET
- 💻 Online

The webinar will focus on:

- Alternative Water Resources (AWR)
- Water-Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)
- Innovative water governance frameworks

Researchers, policymakers and practitioners will come together to discuss how research results can support policy action and urban resilience.

#InnWater #JointWebinar #SaveTheDate #WaterGovernance #ClimateResilience #UrbanWater #HorizonEurope

Second Cluster Policy Brief

LinkedIn	10/02/2026	Posted by : InnWater

💧 WaterGovernance2027 | Turning shared insights into policy messages

Across Europe, water challenges are increasingly recognised — but governance responses often remain fragmented and difficult to translate into action.

The second Joint Policy Brief of the WaterGovernance2027 cluster brings together insights from several Horizon Europe projects (InnWater, GOVAQUA project and RETOUCH NEXUS project) to reflect on what more effective water governance requires in practice.

Developed collaboratively within the cluster, with contributions from Alice Jaraiseh from SIWI - Stockholm International Water Institute and project partners, the brief builds on research results, pilot experiences and stakeholder dialogue to formulate clear, policy-relevant messages. Rather than proposing one-size-fits-all solutions, it highlights key conditions for more resilient, inclusive and coordinated water governance across Europe.

Designed as a support tool for policymakers, practitioners and institutions, the Policy Brief aims to facilitate uptake by linking governance principles with real decision-making contexts.

The Policy Brief is available on our project website: https://lnkd.in/dGr6bNGc

#WaterGovernance2027#PolicyBrief#WaterGovernance#HorizonEurope#PolicyUptake#CollaborativeGovernance#SIWI#InnWater

InnWater Last Day GA Hungary

LinkedIn	09/02/2026	Posted by : InnWater

InnWater General Assembly | Final day — Thursday, 5 February

The final day of the InnWater General Assembly, held on Thursday, 5 February, marked the closing chapter of the project and the last time the consortium met within this framework.

The morning combined a short wrap-up of the previous days with a forward-looking, interactive session. Through roundtable discussions, partners exchanged on what continues, what stops, and the remaining gaps, reflecting collectively on lessons learned and priorities beyond the project.Communication and dissemination, exploitation of results and the InnWater Governance Platform were discussed as key elements to ensure continuity after the project's end. Further details on the platform will be shared later this week.

The morning also included exchanges on future opportunities, including possible pathways under Horizon Europe, as well as final financial and administrative discussions formally closing the project.

In the afternoon, the General Assembly concluded with a site visit, shifting from strategy to the field. Participants discovered local water-related infrastructures and exchanged directly with a local partner and a farmer, grounding the project's discussions in real territorial challenges.

This final day was above all a moment to recognise a shared journey. A sincere thank you to all partners and contributors for their commitment, collaboration and trust throughout InnWater. While this General Assembly marked the end of our formal meetings, the exchanges, connections and results built together will continue well beyond the project.

📸 A few final moments from the last day of our last General Assembly below.

#InnWater #GeneralAssembly #FinalDay #ProjectClosure #BeyondTheProject #HorizonEurope #WaterGovernance #ThankYou

Office International de l'Eau (OiEau) | Université de La Réunion | Etifor | Valuing Nature | Université de Rouen Normandie | Eurecat - Centro Tecnológico | SIWI - Stockholm International Water Institute | REKK Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research | WAREG - European Water Regulators | European University Institute | Ajuntament de Figueres | Westcountry Rivers Trust | Consiglio Di Bacino Brenta | Central Tisza Region Water Directorate

Annex 2: Main Dissemination activities

Type of activity	Description	Partner	Main Target Audience	Date
Video	Videos from OiEau presenting the first policy brief, in FR and EN.	OiEau	EU institutions	01/06/2024
Email campaign	The first Policy Brief of the WaterGovernance2027 synergy group has been widely distributed within the INBO community by email (some 10,000 people).	OiEau	River basin managers	03/07//2024
Video	3 videos interviews from external stakeholders in La Réunion	OiEau	Regional authorities	31/07/2024
Conference	Presentation of the micro-simulation model (MMS) to around 30 executives from the Crédit Agricole bank of La Réunion.	UR	Specific end-users community	01/10/2024
Conference	Presentation of what is done in InnWater through the concept of social innovation at INBO World General Assembly 2024 in Bordeaux, France.	SIWI	National authorities, River basin managers	07/10/2024
Workshop	Presentation of our work on Citizen engagement at INBO World General Assembly 2024	OiEau	National authorities, River basin managers	07/10/2024
Training	Michel Paul, from Université de La Réunion, took part in a training course on water resource management in Réunion and Mayotte. The event, organised by the CNRS and OSU-Réunion, is part of a training programme on ecological transition for government executives. He focused on the 'demand' side of water resource management, and concluded his presentation with a brief description of the decision-support tools currently being developed as part of the InnWater project.	UR	National authorities	29/10/2024
Webinar	Webinar to present and discuss recommendations from the second InnWater policy brief with the targeted audiences.	SIWI	National and regional authorities	15/04/2025
Press release	Press releases for the third physical general asssembly in Padova	OiEau, Etifor	Local authorities	03/03/2025
Workshop	Presentation of the Water Governance Assessment Tool and application in Brenta during INBO Conference.	Etifor	International organisation, River basin managers	20/05/2025
Conference	Presentation of the Middle Brenta pilote site and InnWater assessment tool, citizen engagement roadmap at Adige Water Fair.	Etifor	Research community	20/05/2025

Conference	Conference on water management in Mafate	UR	Civil society, citizens	28/08/2025
Training	InnWater Summer School	OiEau, UR, URN, EURECAT, REKK, Etifor, WRT,	Research community, local authorities	25-26/09/2025
Training and scientific collaboration	Exchange of experience/dissemination: REKK, Figueres, KÖTIVIZIG	REKK, Figueres, KÖTIVIZIG	Local authorities	8-9/10/2025
Training and scientific collaboration	Exchange of experience/dissemination: Etifor, Figueres about conservation and protection of the river environment	Etifor, Figueres	Research community, local authorities	25/11/2025
Training and scientific collaboration	Workshop related to the microsimulation model	REKK, UR	Local authorities	25/11/2025
Workshop	Workshops to disseminate project results in Tisza	KÖTIVIZIG	Local authorities	27/11/2025
Education and training event	A joint initiative aiming to bring together young people and professionals to discuss the issues of water pollution and the protection of Réunion's coral reefs, and to develop a more detailed and concrete understanding of the challenges involved. This meeting was organised by PRODIJ in partnership with the University of Réunion and La Mission Locale Sud. A morning of awareness-raising and a day of co-construction. Eleven young people, five boys and six girls.	UR	Citizens	28/11/2025
Press article	Press article (online) describing the workshop with young citizen organized with La Mission Locale Sud about water pollution and coral reef protection in La Réunion	UR	Local authorities	02/12/2025
Conference	WAREG, SIWI and OiEau, together with RETOUCH NEXUS and GOVAQUA, presented key messages from the 3 projects about the economic and financial dimensiosn of water management. Panelists from different sectors (land owners, Danube lighthouse, regulator) discussed these messages during a hydrid session at the European forum of the water regulators on 4th December in Brussels.	WAREG, SIWI, OiEau	National and regional authorities	04/12/2025
Training	Demonstration and training (serious game) on the water pricing tool to water and sanitation stakeholders in La Réunion as part of a training day, as part of the French oversee territories Water Plan (Plan Eau DOM) - to Public inter-municipal cooperation establishments (EPCI), Department,	UR	Local and regional authorities	09/12/2025

	public utilities, CCAS, funders, Regional Health Agency (ARS), State, public performance consultancy firm.			
Press release	English press releases for the last physical general asssembly in Szolnok	OiEau	Local authorities	19/01/2026
Education and training event	A joint initiative aiming to bring together young people and professionals to discuss the issues of water pollution and the protection of Réunion's coral reefs, and to develop a more detailed and concrete understanding of the challenges involved. This meeting was organised by PRODIJ in partnership with the University of Réunion and L'Académie des Camélias. A morning of awareness-raising and a day of co-construction. Nine young people, five boys and four girls.	UR	Citizens	30/01/2026
Articles & report	A report, a website article, an article for local press to share Figueres' achievements	Figueres	Local authorities	02/2026
Webinar	INBO Webinar with GOVAQUA and RETOUCH NEXUS where the three sister projects shared recommendations from their last joint policy brief about how governance and economic instruments can support water resilience, targeted to river basin managers.	Etifor, OiEau	River basin managers	26/02/2026
Webinar	A webinar gathering several Horizon Europe projects - AWARD, InnWater and WATERUN – which highlighted complementary methodologies, policy recommendations, and governance frameworks that support sustainable urban water management and climate resilient cities.	EUI	Researchers, policymakers, and practitioners	26/02/2026
Material	Results & KER Factsheets	OiEau	Local authorities, research community, civil society, policy makers	02/2026
Videos	Motion design videos to promote and disseminate project results.	OiEau	Local authorities, research community, civil society, policy makers	02/2026

Annex 3: Pilot sites webinars / workshops / meetings

Title	Organiser	Main focus	Main audience	Date
PS1 La Réunion - Local webinar #1	UR	Presentation of the InnWater project & Creation of the InnWater La Réunion working group	Regional authorities	08/06/2023
PS2 Middle Brenta Basin - Local webinar #1	Etifor	Meeting with the local municipalities to inform them about the recent progress in the governance process activated through the LIFE Brenta 2030 project, and introducing InnWater in this contect.	Local authorities	19/09/2023
PS4 Westcountry - Local webinar #1	WRT	Presenting InnWater and review of Citizen Science across the region	Regional authorities	25/09/2023
PS3 Figueres - Local meeting #1	Figueres	Presenting InnWater and discussing engagement in water governance	Local authorities	17/11/2023
PS5 Tisza - Local webinar #1	REKK & KÖTIVIZIG	Presenting the InnWater concept and the pilot site research strategy	National authorities	15/11/2023
Transversal Webinar #1	OiEau & WRT	Discussing with PS stakeholders on challenges and expectations + introducing the work on water governance assessment	Regional authorities	23/11/2023
PS5 Tisza - Local workshop #2	REKK & KÖTIVIZIG	The workshop was organised at the Karcag office of the National Agricultural Chamber. Presentation of the project concept, our activities and consultation with the farmers and water managers on some of the regional water management aspects of agriculture, their challenges, experience from the 2022 drought and EU CAP reform related to land use.	Specific end-users communities	13/02/2024
PS1 La Réunion - Local meeting #2	UR	Presentation of InnWater project and consolidation of the workplan with the involved stakeholders working group	Regional authoritie	16/02/2024
PS4 Westcountry - Local meeting #2	WRT	Automatic data analysis	Local authorities	23/04/2024
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #3	UR	The aim was to take a first step towards identifying the issues on which the group will work in the frame of the InnWater project, making use (as far as possible) of economic modelling tools adapted to La Réunion.	Regional authorities	26/04/2024

PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #4	UR	In the context of the general assembly of the project, a whole day was dedicated to working with the PS Community group: half of the day on water governance assessment with EUI, the other half on citizen engagement.	Regional authorities	10/06/2024
PS3 Figueres - Local meeting #2	Figueres	Seminar on water governance, On 14th June, our partners from the City Council of Figueres and from Eurecat facilitated discussions with 14 participants representing the main agents involved in the study and management of water in the Muga bassin.	Local authorities	14/06/2024
PS2 Middle Brenta Basin - Local meeting #2	Etifor	Presentation of the project ambitions for the Brenta river and discussion with the local water utility on how to improve the communication to the final users.	Local authorities	20/06/2024
PS4 Westcountry - Local meeting #3	WRT	Use of WGA tool with 12 attendees	Local authorities	23/09/2024
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #5	UR	Presentation of the OMEGA-La Réunion CGE Model and answer questions.	Local & Regional authorities	09/2024
PS5 Tisza - Local workshop #3	REKK & KÖTIVIZIG	Farmers, agricultural representatives, the county council, and the water authority gathered to discuss the region's deteriorating water budget and adaptive options. Prticipants discussed the potential for off-season water provision and field-level retention. The InnWater analytical framework was used to support a shared diagnosis of the problem.	Specific end-users communities	21/11/2024
PS3 Figueres - Local meeting #3	Figueres	12 municipalities gathered to review the situation of water supply in each of the municipalities and share problem. The second part was dedicated to finding solutions to the different problems and to discussing how water could be managed in a better way taking into account the interests and needs of the different actors. Finally, the possibility of creating a Water Users Community in the Muga basin was raised.	Local authorities	12/12/2024
Transversal Webinar #2	OiEau & WRT	Progress on the project implementation, focusing on 3 results: the InnWater citizen engagement methodology, the water governance assessment tool, and the replicability assessment of the different tools and solutions of the project.	Regional authorities	03/12/2024

PS5 Tisza - Local workshop #4	REKK & KÖTIVIZIG	Discussing targeted inundation of agricultural land and the economic trade-offs involved.	Specific end-users communities	18/12/2024
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #6	UR	Presentation of the InnWater-La Réunion CGE Model (by the University of Rouen)	Local & Regional authorities	01/2025
PS3 Figueres - Local meeting #4	Figueres	17 Mayors and Councillors of municipalities in the Muga basin to discuss the feasibility of creating a Water User Community in the Muga basin.	Local authorities	14/02/2025
PS4 Westcountry - Local meeting #4	WRT	Update the group on the re-development of the Governance assessment tool and discuss if and how it could be rolled out to the 106 catchment partnerships across the UK. The R-Shiney app was also presented to the group alongside the River Hub programme.	Local authorities	28/02/2025
PS2 Middle Brenta Basin - Local workshop #4	Etifor & CBB	Brenta Basin Water Service: Perspectives and Reflections with Stakeholders (in-person workshop)	Local authorities	28/03/2025
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #7	UR	Presentation of simulations, carried out using the InnWater-La Réunion CGE Model. Discussion on the public policy measures that may be deployed and tested using the CGE Model, Presentation and testing by WG members of a questionnaire on households' willingness to pay for environmental improvements related to the protection of coral reefs.	Local & Regional authorities	04/2025
PS3 Figueres - Local meeting #5	Figueres	Debate on the situation of the agricultural sector in the region and its water management.	Local & Regional authorities	12/06/2025
PS2 Middle Brenta Basin - Local workshop #5	Etifor & CBB	Atlas of the Shores (2 days in-person artistic workshop)	Local authorities	19-20 /06/2025
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #8	UR	Presentation and discussion of simulations, produced by the InnWater-La Réunion CGE model Presentation of cost-benefit analyses of various investment projects in domestic wastewater management combining different technical options (connection to collective sanitation, replacement of non-compliant individual systems, Phyto purification, installation of micro-stations) for the western area of Reunion Island	Local & Regional authorities	06/2025

PS4 Westcountry - Local event #5	WRT	Attended three summer 2025 community events to try and understand the barriers to engagement in water management.	Local authorities & citizens	Summer 2025
PS2 Middle Brenta Basin - Local meeting #3	Etifor & CBB	Preliminary meeting for the creation of a local Steering Committee (online meeting).	Local authorities	17/09/2024
PS3 Figueres - Local meeting #6	Figueres	Seminar organized jointly with the Hungarian partners of the Tisza River Valley, REKK. Exchange of experiences and knowledge in water management between the agricultural sector of the Tisza River (Hungary) and the agricultural sector of the Muga River.	Local & Regional authorities	08/10/2025
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #9	UR	On the topic of water pricing and in conjunction with the InnWater Summer School.	Local & Regional authorities	09/2025
PS5 Tisza - Local workshop #5	REKK & KÖTIVIZIG	Application of the InnWater Water Governance Assessment (WGA) tool to the Middle Tisza pilot area.	Specific end-users communities	29/10/2025
PS3 Figueres - Local meeting #7	Figueres	Participation of 12 people, organized jointly with Etifor. The session had two main objectives. Firstly, to highlight the natural, landscape, biodiversity and ecological connection values of the Muga River. Secondly, to learn about the experience of conserving the river environment, the forms of management and financing of projects based on the case of the Brenta River.	Local & Regional authorities	25/11/2025
PS5 Tisza - Local workshop #6	REKK & KÖTIVIZIG	Focus on integrated water management, drought and heatwave mitigation, and the role of blue-green infrastructure, particularly in urban and peri-urban contexts. The workshop combined presentation of Middle Tisza pilot results with international examples and local practitioner perspectives.	Specific end-users communities	27/11/2025
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #10	UR	Young Citizen Engagement action, with a half-day of joint planning on public policies to be implemented for the protection of coral reefs in Reunion Island.	Local & Regional authorities	11/2025
PS4 Westcountry - Local webinar #6	WRT	Final review of the two data platforms as well as presenting the final Water Governance Assessment tool and how it had been discussed with other catchment partnerships directly by WP4 tool leaders.	Local authorities	12/12/2025
PS2 Middle Brenta Basin - Local workshop #6	Etifor & CBB	Participatory planning of water, biodiversity and recreational aspects (in-person workshop)	Local authorities	16/12/2025

Transversal Webinar #3	OiEau & WRT	Comprehensive overview of what InnWater has delivered and how its tools can support water governance, citizen engagement, and economic decision-making at local, regional, and EU levels.	Regional authorities	20/01/2026
PS1 La Réunion - Local workshop #11	UR	Young Citizens Engagement action, but with a young audience from the northern micro-region of Réunion Island (to address regional balance).	Local & Regional authorities	01/2026

Annex 4: InnWater Summer School surveys analysis

- ***Part I – Ex-ante survey: baseline profile and expectations***

As part of its capacity-building objectives, the InnWater project conducted an ex-ante survey to assess the baseline characteristics, expectations, and perceived challenges of participants enrolled in the Summer School. **A total of 37 respondents completed the survey**, providing a sufficiently diverse and informative dataset to characterise the cohort prior to the training. The survey serves as a diagnostic tool to understand the heterogeneity of participants' backgrounds, prior knowledge, and exposure to governance and modelling tools, as well as the thematic priorities they assign to future water governance challenges.

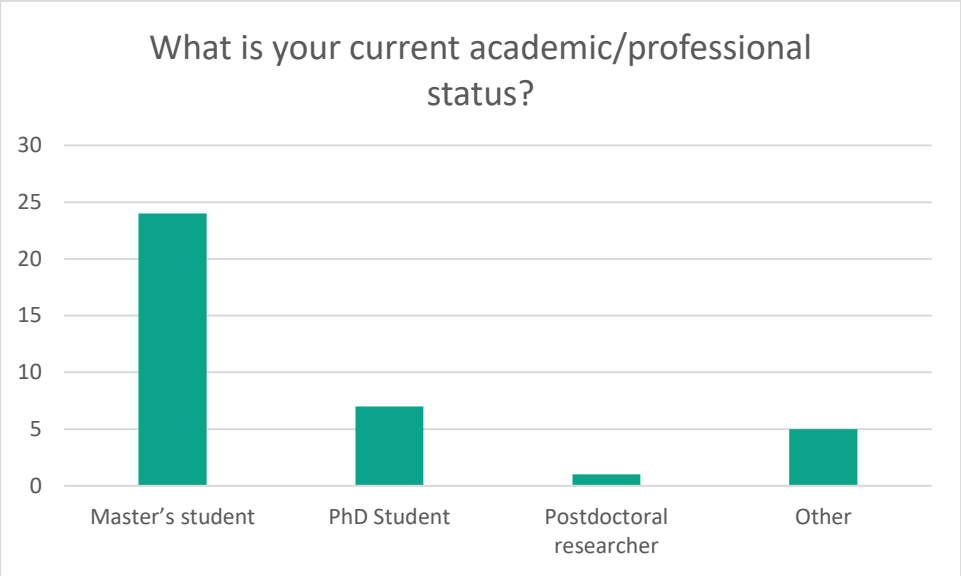
By gathering insights on academic profiles, institutional affiliations, experience levels, and perceived obstacles, the survey provides critical evidence for tailoring the Summer School's programme to the needs of emerging water professionals. **It also offers a broader reflection on the skills gaps and governance challenges that shape the transition towards more integrated, resilient, and innovation-driven water governance in Europe and beyond.** The analysis presented below synthesises the main findings and discusses their implications for the pedagogical design and strategic positioning of the Summer School within the InnWater project.

1.1. Profile of Respondents

1.1.1 Academic and Professional Status

To better understand the profile of participants, the survey invited respondents to indicate their current academic or professional status. The results reveal a cohort largely composed of early-stage researchers, with **almost two-thirds (65%) identifying as Master's students (24 responses)**. An additional **19% are PhD candidates (7 responses)**, while **a small minority (3%) are postdoctoral researchers (1 response)**. The remaining **14% correspond to other professional categories (5 responses)**, suggesting the presence of participants with more diverse backgrounds, including practitioners or individuals outside strictly academic trajectories.

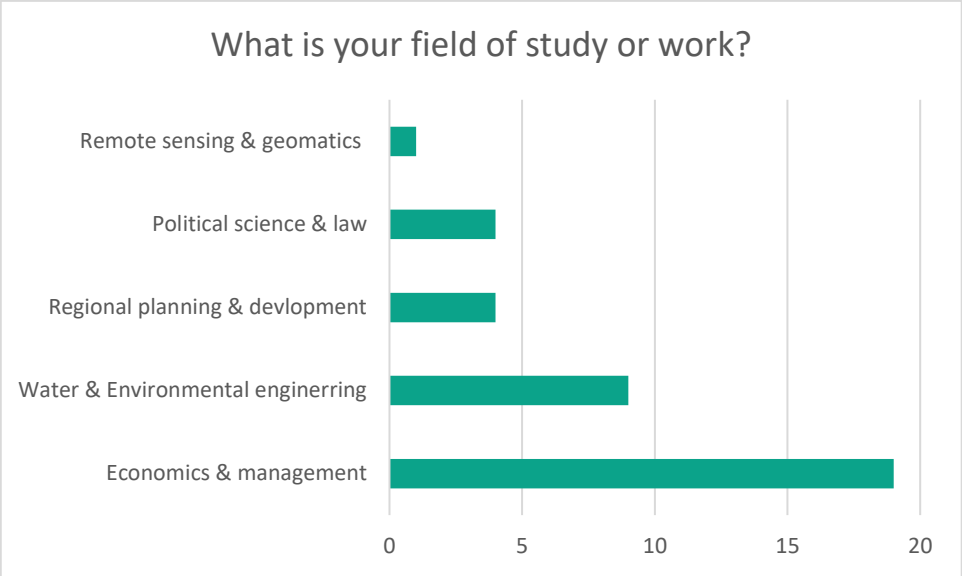
This distribution confirms that the Summer School primarily attracts individuals at the beginning of their academic careers, which aligns with the event's focus on capacity-building and introductory exposure to interdisciplinary water governance issues. It also highlights the importance of providing content accessible to participants with limited prior experience, while still offering depth for those with more advanced backgrounds. **The figure below illustrates the distribution of respondents across the different status categories**



1.1.2 Field of Study or Work

To capture the disciplinary diversity of the cohort, the survey asked respondents to indicate their field of study or professional background. The results show a strong representation of **economics and management**, which accounts for **51% of participants (19 responses)**. This is followed by **water and environmental engineering (24% - 9 responses)**, reflecting the technical dimension of the Summer School. Smaller but meaningful groups come from **regional planning and development (11% - 4 responses)** and **political science and law (11% - responses)**, suggesting engagement from governance-oriented and territorial management perspectives. Only **one respondent (3%)** comes from **remote sensing and geomatics**, indicating a more limited presence of geospatial expertise.

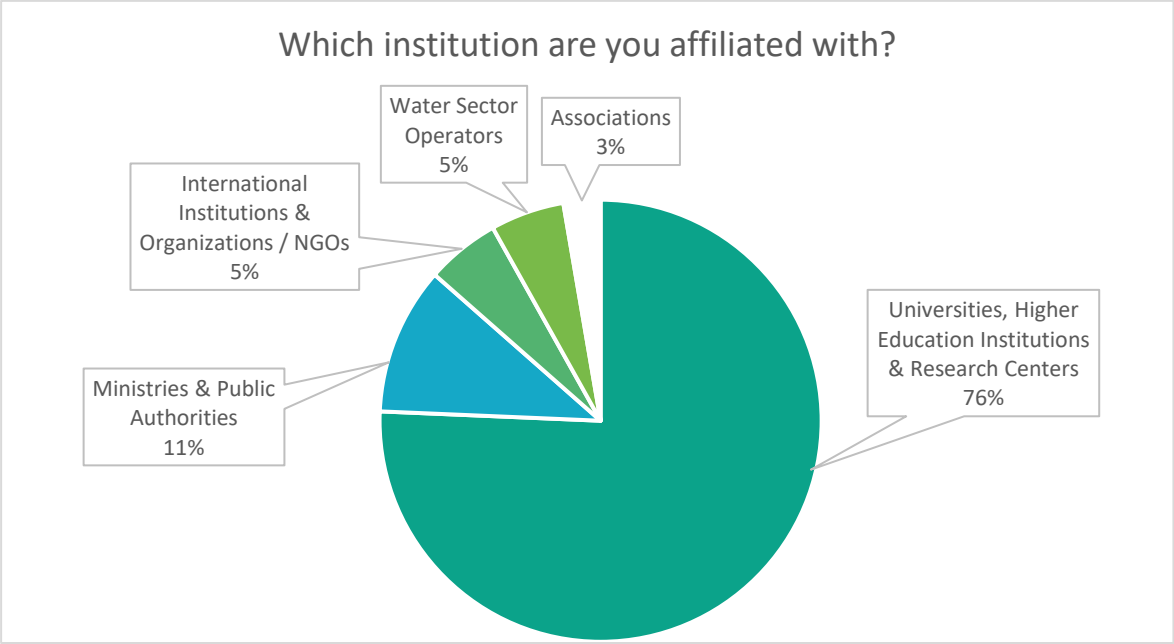
Overall, the disciplinary landscape is clearly multi-sectoral, combining socio-economic, technical, governance-related and environmental profiles. This diversity is particularly relevant for a programme centred on integrated water governance, as it facilitates cross-disciplinary dialogue and fosters a more holistic understanding of water-related challenges. **The figure below illustrates the distribution of respondents across the different fields of study or work.**



1.1.3 Institutional Affiliation

To understand the institutional context from which participants originate, the survey asked respondents to indicate the type of organisation they are affiliated with. The results show that the great majority, **76% of respondents,** come from **universities, higher education institutions, or research centres**. This confirms the primarily academic orientation of the Summer School and suggests that most participants engage with water governance from a research or educational perspective.
A smaller portion of the cohort comes from **public authorities (11%)**, which is important for ensuring the presence of policy and administrative perspectives within the discussions. Additionally, **5% originate from international institutions or NGOs**, and another **5% from water sector operators**, reflecting a modest, yet valuable representation of practice-oriented actors. The remaining **3%** come from associations.

This distribution highlights the need for the programme to balance theoretical and applied dimensions, recognising that while most participants are academics, the presence of practitioners enriches exchanges and helps anchor discussions in real-world governance contexts. **The figure below illustrates the distribution of institutional affiliations within the cohort.**



1.1.4 Country of Residence

To better understand the geographical diversity of the cohort, respondents were asked to indicate their country of residence. The results reveal a highly international group, with participants coming from **15 different countries** across Europe, Africa, and Latin America. The largest share originates from **France (43%)**, followed by **Italy (11%)**, reflecting the strong participation of countries directly involved in InnWater activities or hosting institutions connected to the project. Smaller groups come from **Madagascar (8%)**, **Greece** and **Spain** (each 5%), while all other countries, such as Albania, Brazil, Czechia, Egypt, Germany, Jordan, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Portugal, and the United Kingdom, are represented by single respondents.

This wide geographical spread demonstrates the international reach of the Summer School and underscores its ability to attract participants from diverse socio-institutional environments. Such heterogeneity enriches discussions, particularly on governance issues, as participants bring perspectives shaped by varied climatic contexts, institutional arrangements, and water management challenges. It also highlights the relevance of InnWater's capacity-building activities for audiences beyond the immediate project consortium.

1.2. Previous Exposure to Water Governance and Technical Tools

1.2.1 Participation in Water-Related Networks / Events

The survey also explored participants' prior involvement in networks, events, or initiatives related to water management, in order to assess their level of exposure to professional or thematic communities before joining the Summer School. The results indicate a relatively balanced situation: **54% of respondents reported having no previous participation**, while **46% indicated some form of involvement** in water-related networks or activities.

This distribution suggests that the cohort includes both newcomers to the field and individuals with some existing professional or academic engagement in water governance. The presence of participants without prior exposure highlights the importance of offering introductory content and building foundational understanding, while the involvement of more experienced individuals contributes to peer learning and

richer exchanges during discussions and group work. The mix of profiles reinforces the role of the Summer School as an entry point into European water governance networks, particularly for young researchers and students who have not yet established connections within the sector.

1.2.2 Experience with Key Domains

The survey also examined participants' prior experience across five domains central to contemporary water governance: participatory processes, economic modelling, digital tools, stakeholder engagement, and policy analysis. Across all five areas, the results point to a generally low level of practical exposure among respondents, suggesting that participants approach the Summer School with strong interest but relatively limited hands-on experience. This pattern is particularly pronounced in the more technical and innovation-driven domains. For instance, **experience with economic models, such as CGE, MSM or similar frameworks, is extremely limited**, with nearly half of the cohort reporting no prior exposure and none indicating significant experience. This confirms that advanced modelling remains a highly specialised competency and underscores the importance of introductory yet accessible sessions on economic tools within InnWater.

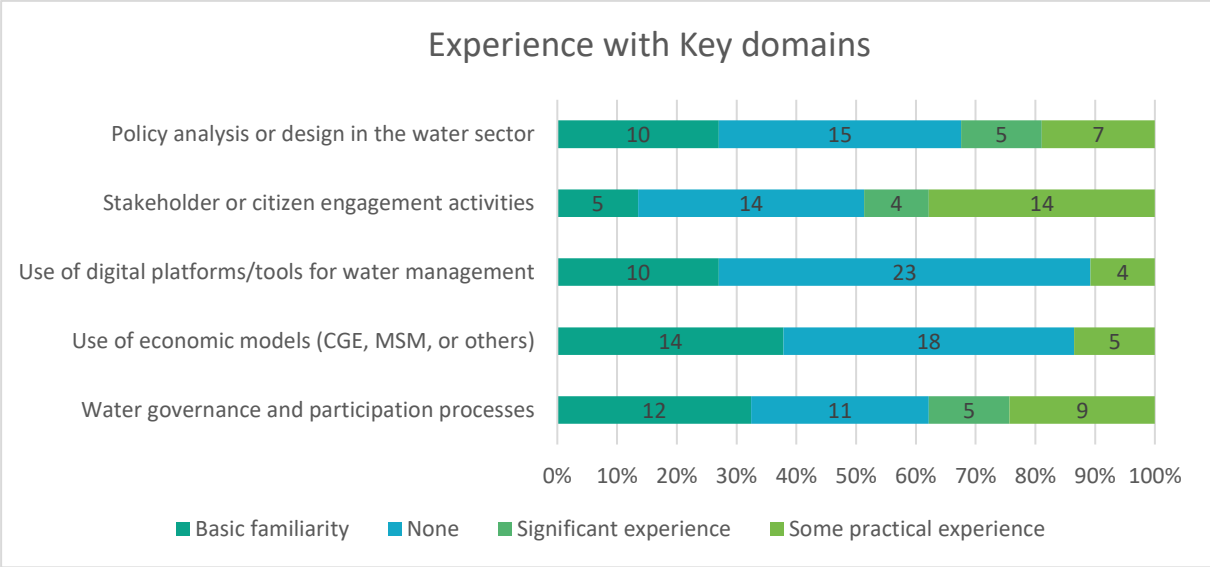
A similar trend emerges regarding **digital platforms and tools for water management**: a substantial majority (62%) have never used such tools, while only a very small proportion report some practical experience. Given the centrality of digitalisation to the transformation of water governance in Europe, this gap highlights a clear need for capacity-building, particularly in relation to data-driven decision support systems, monitoring technologies, and integrated digital infrastructures.

In contrast, the distribution of experience in **stakeholder or citizen engagement activities** reveals a greater diversity. While a significant proportion of respondents have no experience, an equally substantial share reports practical involvement, suggesting that engagement practices are more widespread and readily accessible in both academic and professional environments. This mix provides fertile ground for peer learning within the Summer School, as more experienced participants can share insights from real-world participatory processes, while newcomers bring fresh perspectives.

Experience in **policy analysis and design** shows a similar pattern of partial exposure: although 41% of participants have no background in this area, others report varying degrees of familiarity or involvement. This distribution suggests that while policy thinking is present within the cohort, it remains unevenly developed, reflecting the multidisciplinarity of the group and the variety of academic trajectories represented.

Finally, in the domain of **water governance and participation processes**, the cohort demonstrates a more balanced spread across experience levels. This indicates that governance concepts are more commonly encountered early in academic training, even if substantial hands-on involvement remains limited.

Taken together, these findings reveal a cohort characterised by **high motivation but limited specialised expertise**, particularly in modelling, digitalisation, and advanced policy design. This reinforces the strategic relevance of the Summer School's design, which combines foundational theoretical sessions with applied exercises and interdisciplinary methodologies. It also confirms the value of InnWater's approach in addressing knowledge gaps that currently hinder the operationalisation of integrated and innovative water governance across Europe.

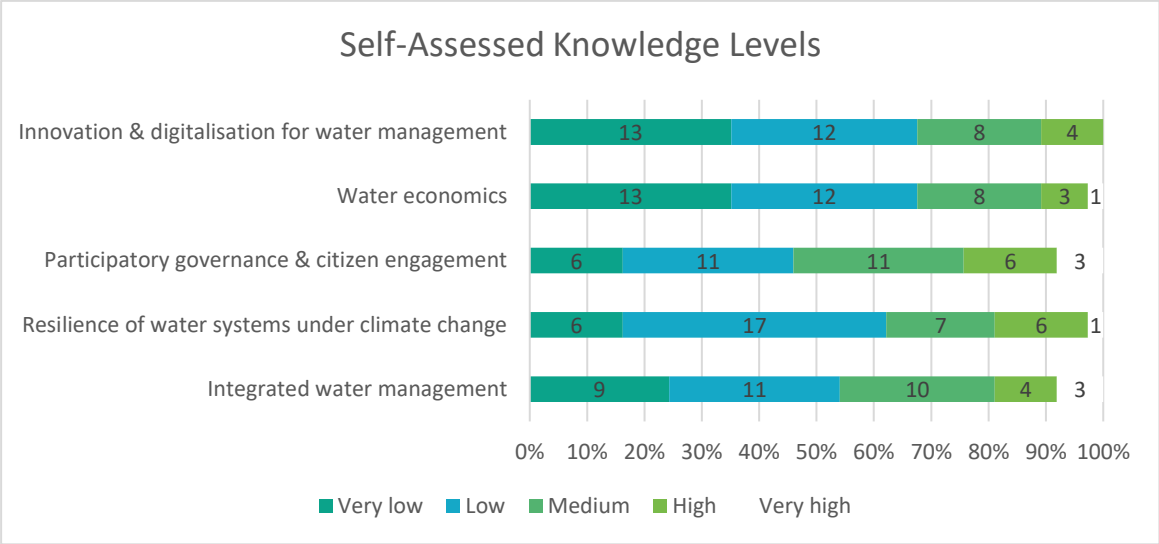


1.3. Self-Assessed Knowledge Levels

The survey also invited participants to self-assess their current level of knowledge across five core thematic areas addressed by the Summer School: integrated water management, climate resilience of water systems, participatory governance and citizen engagement, water economics, and innovation and digitalisation for water management. Across all topics, results point to a generally modest level of prior knowledge, with a predominance of ratings in the "very low" to "medium" range. In the case of **integrated water management**, for instance, more than half of the respondents position themselves at low or very low knowledge levels, while fewer than one in five report high or very high familiarity. A similar pattern appears for **resilience of water systems under climate change**, where nearly two-thirds of participants rate their knowledge as low or very low, suggesting limited exposure to resilience frameworks and climate-related risk management.

Self-assessed knowledge of **participatory governance and citizen engagement** shows a slightly more balanced profile, although low and medium levels still dominate. This may reflect the broader dissemination of participation-related concepts within academic curricula or research networks. In contrast, knowledge gaps are significantly more pronounced in **water economics** and **innovation and digitalisation**, where the highest proportions of "very low" ratings are observed (35% for water economics and 35% for digitalisation). Only a minimal share of respondents feel highly confident in these two domains, highlighting critical areas where the Summer School can provide substantial added value.

Taken together, these findings indicate that participants enter the programme with a generally limited level of confidence across all five thematic pillars, particularly in the more technical or innovation-oriented domains. This underscores the strategic importance of offering foundational content that builds shared conceptual understanding while progressively introducing more advanced analytical and digital tools. It also confirms the relevance of the programme's objective to strengthen interdisciplinary competencies and empower early-career researchers to navigate the complexity of contemporary water governance challenges.

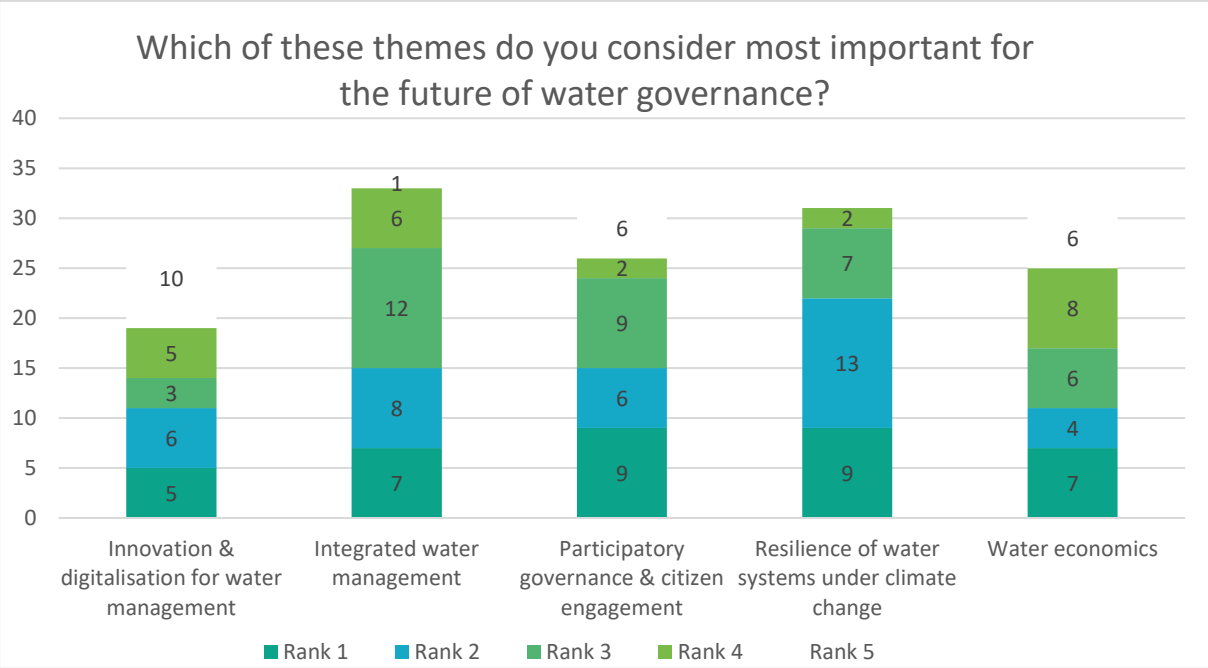


1.4. Prioritized Themes for the Future of Water Governance

The survey also examined how participants prioritise key thematic areas for the future of water governance by ranking five domains: innovation and digitalisation, integrated water management, participatory governance and citizen engagement, resilience of water systems under climate change, and water economics. The results reveal a clear hierarchy of perceived importance. When considering the first-ranked theme, **participatory governance and climate resilience emerge as the top priorities**, each receiving the highest number of Rank 1 selections. Integrated water management and water economics follow closely, suggesting that respondents recognise both technical and economic dimensions as essential pillars of future governance frameworks.

When examining the second and third ranks collectively, **resilience of water systems consistently appears as a high priority**, confirming widespread concern about climate-related vulnerabilities. Integrated water management also maintains a strong position across multiple ranks, reflecting its centrality as a foundational governance principle. In contrast, **innovation and digitalisation, although widely acknowledged as relevant, tend to appear more frequently in the lower ranks (4th and 5th)**. This suggests that while digital transformation is recognised as important, participants may view it more as an enabling tool rather than a primary governance priority.

Across all rankings, a coherent pattern emerges: respondents place greater value on **systemic governance approaches, stakeholder involvement, and climate resilience**, while more technical or specialised domains such as water economics and digitalisation are perceived as secondary but still significant. This prioritisation offers useful insights for shaping the pedagogical focus of the Summer School, ensuring that governance and resilience remain central while digital and economic tools are framed as strategic supports for broader decision-making processes.



1.5. Expectations from the Summer School

The survey also explored participants' expectations regarding the Summer School, providing valuable insights into the types of learning experiences and outcomes they consider most relevant. Overall, respondents express **strong and multifaceted expectations**, indicating a desire for both conceptual and practical components. A clear majority of participants expect the programme to help them **acquire new theoretical knowledge**, with nearly four in five respondents selecting this option. Even more prominently, **practical case studies, such as pilot sites or real-world applications, stand out as one of the most widely shared expectations**, reflecting the need for concrete examples that translate complex governance and modelling concepts into applied contexts.

Participants also strongly emphasise the development of **methodological and practical skills**, demonstrating an appetite for hands-on exercises, exposure to interdisciplinary tools, and training that can be directly mobilised in future academic or professional settings. Expectations related to **digital and economic tools**, including modelling platforms used in InnWater (e.g., MSM, CGE models), are somewhat more mixed: while over half of the respondents express interest in experimenting with such tools, a substantial proportion indicate no such expectation. This mirrors the earlier observation that participants have limited prior experience in these technical domains and may therefore approach them with varying degrees of confidence.

In addition to technical learning, participants also highlight the importance of **exchange and interaction with experts and peers**, confirming that the Summer School is perceived not only as a training event but also as an opportunity for networking, community building, and exposure to diverse perspectives. This dimension is further reinforced by the qualitative "Other" category, where respondents express interest in **building partnerships for future projects**, signalling the potential of the Summer School as a catalyst for collaborative initiatives.

Overall, participants envision the Summer School as a **comprehensive learning environment** combining knowledge acquisition, applied experience, methodological training, and professional networking. These

expectations align closely with the objectives of the InnWater project, particularly its emphasis on capacity-building, interdisciplinarity, and the practical operationalisation of water governance innovation.

1.6. Main Obstacles and Frustrations (Qualitative Question)

The open-ended question on the main obstacles and frustrations encountered in water governance reveals a broad convergence around several structural challenges. Participants highlight persistent issues of **institutional fragmentation**, marked by overlapping responsibilities, weak coordination between agencies, and inconsistencies between local, regional and national policies. Many also emphasise the **lack of digitalisation and limited access to reliable data**, which hampers monitoring, planning, and the development of evidence-based strategies. Concerns related to **insufficient financial resources and dependence on external funding** are also prominent, particularly in contexts where infrastructure investment and long-term planning remain constrained.

In addition, respondents point to **social and behavioural barriers**, such as low public awareness, resistance to regulatory measures, and entrenched practices that impede sustainable water management. Environmental pressures, including the growing impacts of **climate change**, further exacerbate existing vulnerabilities. Finally, several contributions underline a recurrent gap between **policy formulation and practical implementation**, where well-designed frameworks fail to translate into effective action due to administrative rigidity, bureaucratic delays, or limited technical capacity.

Taken together, these perspectives paint a coherent picture of water governance as a field where technical, institutional, financial and societal constraints intersect. They also reinforce the importance of strengthening interdisciplinary skills, improving stakeholder coordination, and developing more adaptive, data-informed governance models—objectives that lie at the core of the InnWater Summer School.

1.7. Implications for InnWater and the Summer School

The results of the ex-ante survey demonstrate a strong alignment between participants' profiles, expectations, and the strategic objectives of the InnWater project. The data reveal **substantial training needs in areas such as water economics, digitalisation, and policy analysis**, where both prior experience and self-assessed knowledge levels are particularly low. This finding underscores the relevance of the

Summer School's methodological components and confirms the added value of providing accessible introductions to modelling tools, digital platforms, and governance analysis frameworks.

At the same time, participants express a clear preference for **hands-on, applied learning experiences**, including practical case studies, pilot site demonstrations, and interactive exercises. This reinforces the importance of InnWater's emphasis on real-world applications and justifies the inclusion of concrete examples drawn from the project's living labs and stakeholder engagement activities. **The interest in practical exposure also highlights the need to ensure a balance between conceptual sessions and applied workshops**, enabling participants to translate theoretical knowledge into actionable skills.

Governance-related challenges emerge throughout the survey as a central theme, both in the prioritisation of future water governance topics and in the qualitative responses concerning systemic obstacles. Issues such as fragmented responsibilities, limited coordination, weak data availability, and inconsistent policy frameworks resonate strongly with the domains addressed in WP2 and WP6. **This convergence confirms that the governance-focused work packages are well aligned with the concerns of early-career professionals and can serve as an entry point for developing more integrated, participatory, and resilience-oriented governance models.**

Finally, the survey highlights the importance of **networking, peer learning, and exchange with experts** as essential motivations for joining the Summer School. Participants appear eager to build professional connections and engage in interdisciplinary dialogue, suggesting that the event can serve as a platform not only for knowledge transfer but also for community-building within the emerging generation of water governance practitioners. **This dimension positions the Summer School as a catalyst for collaboration both within and beyond the InnWater consortium**, potentially supporting future research partnerships, project initiatives, and long-term knowledge exchange.

6.5.1 2- Part II – Ex-post survey: perceived usefulness and follow-up

To assess the immediate outcomes of the Summer School and understand how participants perceived the usefulness, relevance, and applicability of the content delivered, an ex-post survey was conducted at the end of the training. A total of 18 responses were collected. The survey aimed to capture participants' appreciation of the different sessions, their interest in applying InnWater tools and methods, their level of satisfaction with the programme, and their views on its strengths and areas for improvement. The following sections synthesise the main findings.

2.1. Perceived Usefulness of the Different Sessions

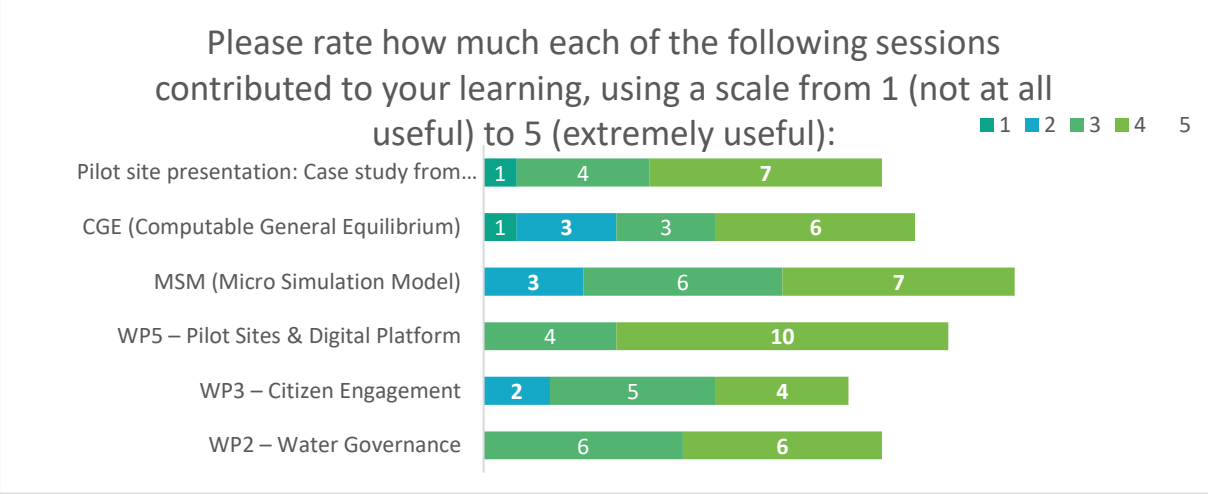
Participants were invited to assess the usefulness of each session delivered during the Summer School on a scale from 1 ("not at all useful") to 5 ("extremely useful"). Overall, the results show a consistently positive appraisal of the programme, with the majority of ratings concentrated at the upper end of the scale. This confirms the strong pedagogical value and perceived relevance of the content delivered.

The governance-focused sessions, WP2 (Water Governance) and WP3 (Citizen Engagement), receive particularly high scores, with around two thirds of participants rating them as 4 or 5. These results mirror the ex-ante prioritisation of governance and participation, suggesting that the Summer School effectively addressed the themes identified as most important by participants.

The session on Pilot Sites and the Digital Platform stands out as one of the most appreciated components, with more than three quarters of participants assigning top scores. This high level of usefulness is especially noteworthy given the limited familiarity with digital tools reported in the ex-ante survey. It suggests that the session successfully introduced participants to digitalisation in an accessible and practice-oriented manner.

The modelling sessions (MSM and CGE) receive more varied ratings but remain overall positively evaluated. While participants acknowledge their technical complexity, the majority still rate these sessions between 3 and 5, reflecting both their perceived value and the need for further capacity-building in modelling. The Hungarian pilot-site case study is also highly appreciated, with nearly three quarters of participants awarding the session a rating of 4 or 5, highlighting the strong interest in real-world applications and concrete illustrations of governance tools in practice.

Taken together, these evaluations indicate that the Summer School provided a coherent and engaging set of sessions, with a good balance between conceptual foundations, technical depth, and applied examples. The strong usefulness scores across all components demonstrate the programme's ability to cater to a heterogeneous audience while responding to the thematic priorities identified ex-ante.

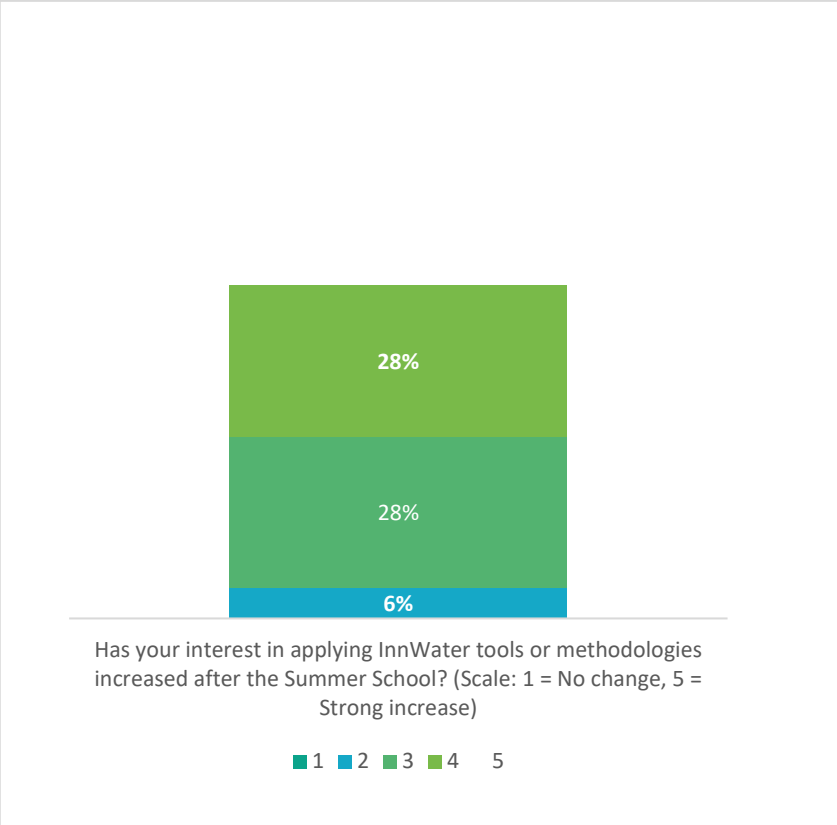


2.2. Increased Interest in Applying InnWater Tools and Methods

Participants were also asked whether their interest in applying InnWater tools and methodologies had increased after the Summer School. The results show a clear positive effect: 67% of respondents reported a strong or very strong increase in their interest, while 94% indicated at least a moderate increase.

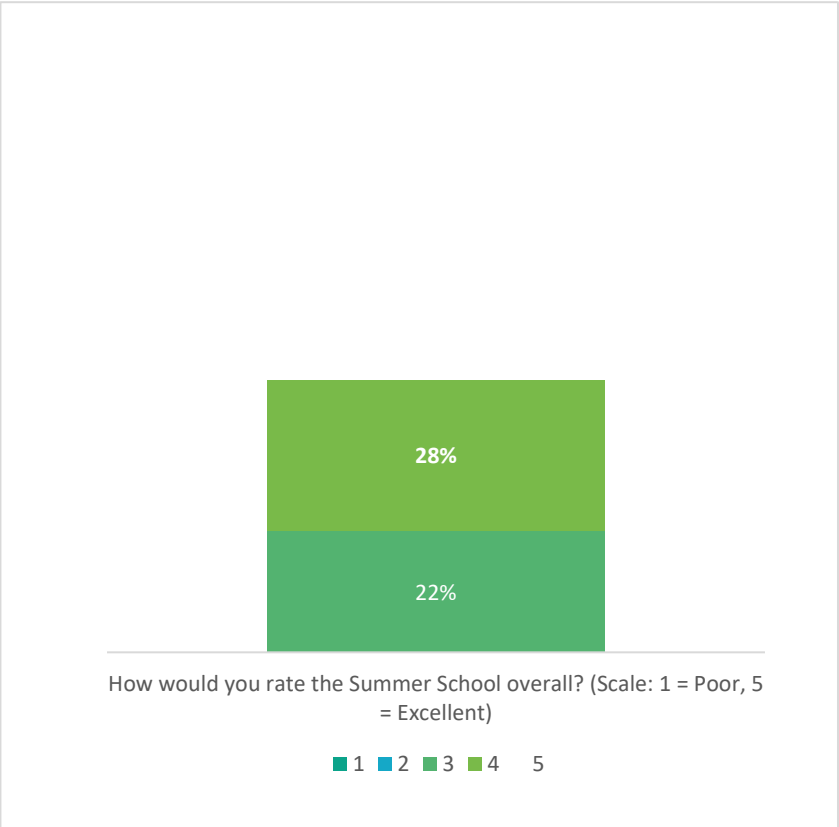
This finding is particularly significant given the low levels of prior exposure reported in the ex-ante survey, especially in relation to economic modelling and digital platforms. The increase in interest demonstrates that the Summer School successfully demystified these tools and helped participants understand their potential usefulness in academic, professional, and policy contexts.

Although the ex-ante and ex-post questions are not identical, the comparison nonetheless suggests that initial expectations regarding tool experimentation were not only met but translated into a stronger motivation to engage with InnWater's methodologies.

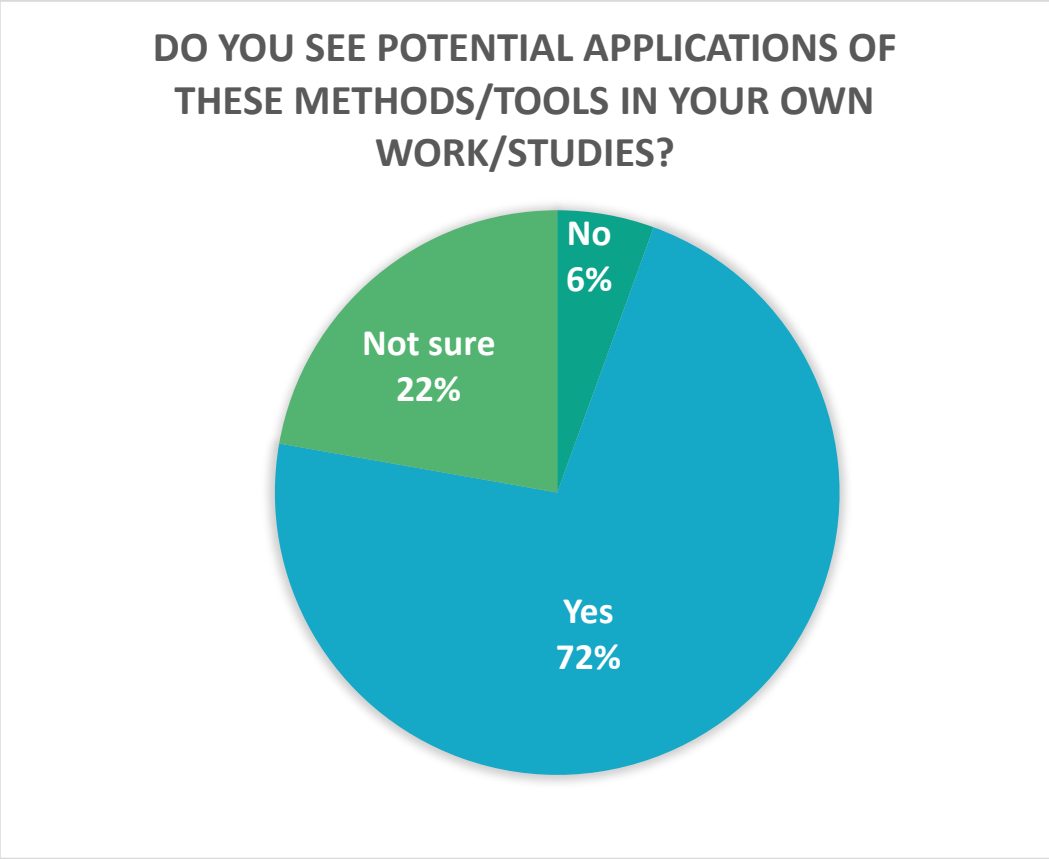


2.3. Overall Satisfaction with the Summer School

Participants were also asked to rate the Summer School overall. The results reveal a very high level of satisfaction: 78% of respondents rated the programme as “very good” or “excellent”, and no one assigned a rating below 3. This demonstrates that the event was perceived as well designed, relevant, and effective in delivering a comprehensive learning experience within a concise two-day format.



2.4. Potential Applications of InnWater Tools and Methods



The ex-post survey also explored whether participants saw potential applications of the methods and tools presented during the Summer School in their own work. The results are highly encouraging: 72% of respondents indicated that they could already identify concrete areas in which they might apply the tools, while 22% were unsure and only 6% stated that they did not see any immediate relevance.

The qualitative comments provided by participants highlight several broad areas of application. These include:

- **Economic & Policy Modelling Applications (CGE, MSM, pricing models)** – using models for tariff design, scenario analysis, macroeconomic simulations, assessment of water scarcity impacts, and support for policy planning at local and national levels.
- **Participatory Governance & Stakeholder Engagement** – applying stakeholder mapping, participatory planning, co-production of strategies and data, and inclusive governance mechanisms, particularly in contexts facing water stress or complex multi-actor coordination.
- **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) & Sustainability** – using integrated frameworks to evaluate sustainable policies, address the links between technical, social and economic dimensions, and support urban and territorial ecology studies.
- **Digital Tools & Data Platforms** – exploiting digital platforms for data analysis, scenario modelling, monitoring, coordination, and awareness campaigns related to water-use efficiency and climate resilience.
- **Operational & Technical Applications** – applying methods and tools in concrete operational settings, such as wastewater treatment plants, and using local data to identify optimal solutions for specific management challenges.

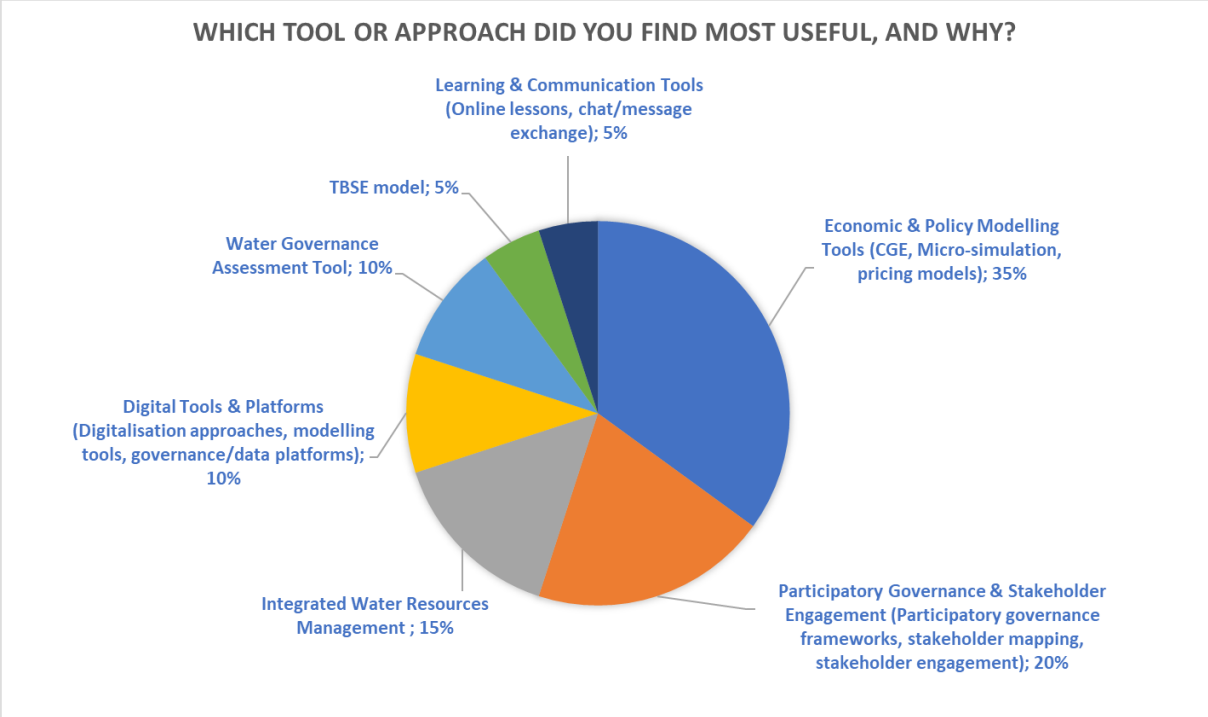
These comments indicate that participants do not view the tools merely as theoretical instruments, but as potentially actionable, context-adaptable methodologies.

2.5. Perceived Usefulness of Specific Tools and Approaches

When asked which tool or methodological approach they found most useful, participants most frequently cited modelling tools such as the CGE and MSM models, representing 35% of the responses. This is particularly striking given that ex-ante familiarity with modelling tools was very low.

Other tools mentioned include participatory governance approaches (20%), integrated water resource management (15%), the digital platform (10%), the water governance assessment tool (10%), the TBSE model (5%), and communication or learning tools (5%).

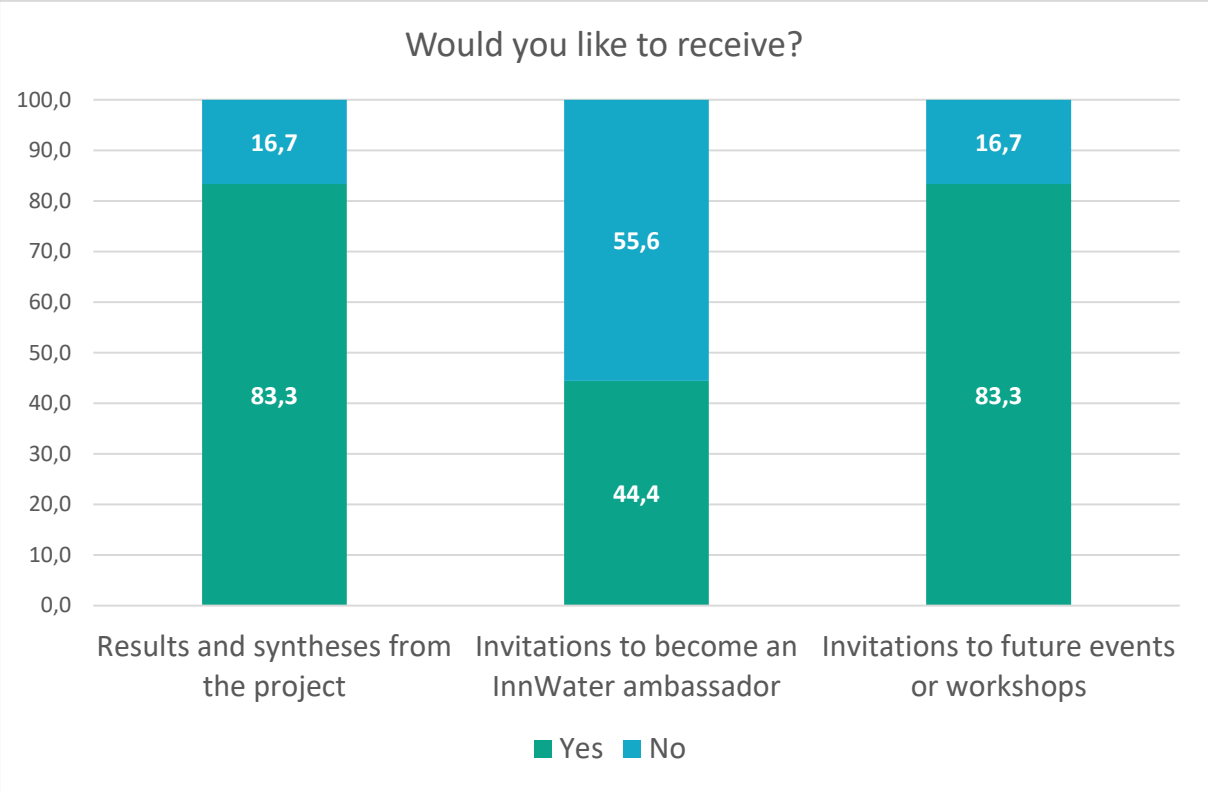
The diversity of responses highlights both the richness of the programme and the ways in which different profiles benefit from different components of the training.



2.6. Future Engagement with InnWater

Participants were asked about their interest in maintaining contact with the InnWater project. The vast majority expressed a desire to remain engaged, particularly through receiving results and syntheses (83%) or being invited to future events (83%). A smaller but still substantial proportion (44%) expressed interest in becoming ambassadors for the project. Only two respondents (11%) indicated that they did not wish to receive further communication.

These results suggest that the Summer School not only provided useful training, but also contributed to building a motivated community of young researchers and practitioners who are willing to engage further with InnWater.



2.7. Perceived Strengths of the Summer School

The open-ended question on the strengths of the Summer School yielded rich and convergent feedback. Several key strengths emerge:

- **Diversity of themes, speakers, and perspectives**, including the combination of governance, citizen engagement, economic modelling, and digital tools.
- **Interdisciplinary and comprehensive approach**, providing a well-rounded view of water management challenges across technical, social, economic, and governance dimensions.
- **Variety of actors and international composition of the group**, fostering cross-cultural exchange and peer learning.
- **Quality and clarity of instructors**, as well as the high quality of materials and presentations.
- **Practical and interactive components**, including exercises, pilot site case studies, and hands-on illustration of tools, perceived as making abstract concepts more concrete.
- **Programme structure**, with a compact but well-organised two-day format and a good balance between theoretical inputs and applied sessions.

Overall, participants describe the Summer School as comprehensive, stimulating, and well structured, with a strong added value in terms of both knowledge acquisition and professional networking.

2.8. Suggestions for Improvement

Participants also provided several suggestions for enhancing future editions of the Summer School. These include:

- **More hands-on and practical exercises**, especially for modelling tools (MSM, CGE), with additional time for guided exercises, case studies, or group discussions rather than only quizzes.
- **Clarity and pacing of some presentations**, including time management and avoiding sessions perceived as too dense or "too theoretical".
- **More time for group discussions, Q&A, and networking**, to deepen exchanges among participants and with experts.
- **Better communication and organisation of the final workshop and some practical details**, including clearer instructions and expectations.
- **Broader coverage of examples**, such as applications in the sanitation sector or more cases from outside Europe, to widen the global perspective.
- **Support materials and preparation**, such as pre-reading or guidance to help participants better follow technical sessions and achieve a good level of understanding.

While these suggestions point to possible refinements, they do not detract from the overwhelmingly positive evaluation of the programme. Rather, they highlight participants' desire for a more interactive and practice-oriented format, especially in technically demanding sessions.

3- Part III - Comparison analysis of ex-ante and ex-post surveys

3.1. Evolution of knowledge levels (ex-ante vs ex-post summer school)

A comparison of the ex-ante and ex-post surveys reveals a clear improvement in participants' self-assessed knowledge across all thematic areas addressed by the Summer School. Before the training, the majority of respondents described their knowledge as "very low" or "low" for each of the five core topics, with particularly limited familiarity in water economics and innovation and digitalisation for water management. In contrast, after the Summer School, none of the 18 respondents rated their knowledge as "very low" in any area, and the proportion of "high" or "very high" ratings increased substantially across all topics.

The most pronounced shift concerns water economics and digitalisation, where ex-ante ratings were strongly concentrated at the lowest levels (35% "very low"). Ex-post, 39% of participants rated their knowledge of water economics as "high" or "very high", and 50% did so for innovation and digitalisation. Similar upward trends appear for integrated water management, climate resilience, and participatory governance, where the combined share of "high" and "very high" ratings now ranges between 44% and 61%.

Overall, these results demonstrate that the Summer School succeeded in strengthening participants' conceptual foundations and reducing previously identified knowledge gaps, particularly in domains where participants expressed the lowest levels of confidence prior to the training. The observed shifts reflect the effectiveness of the programme's structure, which balances introductory content with applied examples to support knowledge acquisition among participants with highly diverse backgrounds.

3.2. Interest in InnWater tools and perceived applicability

Beyond knowledge gains, the comparison between ex-ante expectations and ex-post assessments highlights a notable reinforcement of participants' interest in InnWater tools and methodologies. Prior to the training, 54% of respondents expected to "test and experiment" with digital and economic tools such

as the micro-simulation model (MSM), the CGE model, or the digital platform. Ex-post, 67% of respondents reported a strong or very strong increase in their motivation to apply these tools in their own work or studies, representing a positive shift of 13 percentage points.

This heightened interest is also reflected in participants' perceived applicability of the tools: 72% stated that they could already identify concrete ways to use the methods presented during the Summer School, while only 6% considered the tools not relevant to their professional or academic context. This is a significant finding given the limited baseline exposure reported in the ex-ante survey, especially regarding economic models and digital platforms.

A similar trend appears for modelling tools. Ex-ante, familiarity with economic modelling was extremely low, with 81% of respondents reporting "low" or "very low" knowledge. However, ex-post, the CGE and MSM sessions were among the most appreciated, and 35% of participants identified economic modelling as the single most useful component of the Summer School. Likewise, the WP5 session on pilot sites and the digital platform, despite very low initial familiarity, achieved the highest usefulness ratings, with 78% rating it as "very useful" or "extremely useful".

Together, these results indicate that the Summer School not only addressed the capacity gaps identified ex-ante, but also generated enthusiasm for further engagement with InnWater's tools, demonstrating the effectiveness of its applied, hands-on teaching approach.

3.3 Alignment of Initial Priorities with Ex-Post Perceptions

The comparison between ex-ante thematic priorities and ex-post perceived usefulness shows a strong coherence between participants' initial expectations and their evaluation of the programme. In the ex-ante survey, participants placed particular importance on participatory governance, citizen engagement, and the resilience of water systems under climate change. These themes reappear prominently in the ex-post evaluation: the sessions on WP2 (Water Governance) and WP3 (Citizen Engagement) receive some of the highest usefulness ratings, with roughly two thirds of participants rating them as "very useful" or "extremely useful".

Similarly, the strong ex-ante preference for practical case studies is corroborated by the very positive evaluations of the Hungarian pilot-site presentation, where 72% of respondents awarded top scores. This convergence indicates that the Summer School successfully addressed participants' expectations, combining governance-oriented content, applied modelling tools, and real-world examples that reinforce the programme's relevance for emerging water professionals.

3.4 Overall Added Value of the Summer School

The combined results of the ex-ante and ex-post surveys demonstrate the significant added value of the Summer School in strengthening participants' competencies and reinforcing their engagement with innovative water governance methods. Participants enter the programme with limited experience in modelling, digital tools, and policy design, yet leave with a substantially higher level of confidence, a clearer understanding of practical applications, and a reinforced motivation to integrate these tools into their work.

Moreover, the strong alignment between initial expectations and ex-post satisfaction confirms the relevance of the thematic focus adopted by InnWater. By combining governance frameworks, citizen engagement methodologies, modelling tools, and practical case studies, the programme offers a

comprehensive and well-calibrated learning experience. Participants also emphasise the benefits of networking, interdisciplinary dialogue, and exposure to international perspectives, reflecting the broader community-building role of the Summer School.

Overall, the comparative analysis highlights the programme's effectiveness in bridging critical skills gaps, strengthening interdisciplinary understanding, and fostering the emergence of a new generation of researchers and practitioners equipped to support more integrated, data-informed, and socially inclusive water governance models across Europe and beyond.

Indicator Category	Key Indicator	Ex-Ante Value	Ex-Post Value	Evolution / Interpretation
Participation & Profile	Total respondents	37	18	—
	Master's students	65%	—	Shows early-career focus
	Countries represented	15	—	Strong international diversity
Experience & Skills Baseline	Experience with digital tools	62% none	—	Critical baseline gap addressed in WP5
	Experience with economic models	49% none, 0% significant	—	Important gap identified pre-training
Knowledge Levels	High/very high knowledge – Integrated water management	19%	67%	**+48 points**
	High/very high knowledge – Climate resilience	19%	44%	**+25 points**
	High/very high knowledge – Participation & engagement	24%	44%	**+20 points**
	High/very high knowledge – Water economics	11%	39%	**+28 points**
	High/very high knowledge – Innovation & digitalisation	11%	50%	**+39 points**
Expectations (Ex-Ante)	Expect practical case studies	81%	—	High demand for applied content
	Expect theoretical knowledge	78%	—	Clear interest in conceptual grounding
	Expect digital/economic tool testing	54%	—	Moderate baseline interest
Perceived Usefulness (Ex-Post)	WP2 – Governance rated 4–5	—	67%	Strong match with ex-ante priority
	WP3 – Engagement rated 4–5	—	61%	Reinforces participatory priority
	WP5 – Digital platform rated 4–5	—	78%	**Highest usefulness score**
	CGE modelling rated 4–5	—	61%	High despite low baseline knowledge
	Hungary pilot site rated 4–5	—	72%	Confirms demand for case studies
Motivation & Interest	Expected tool use (ex-ante)	54%	—	Moderate initial expectation
	Interest in tools increased (4–5)	—	67%	**+13 points vs. expectations**
	At least moderate interest increase	—	94%	Signifies strong motivational impact
Application Potential	Can apply tools in own work	—	72%	High transfer potential
	Unsure about application	—	22%	Opportunity for follow-up support
	No application foreseen	—	6%	Very low non-adoption
Most Useful Tools (Ex-Post)	Economic & policy modelling	—	35%	Top category despite low baseline
	Participation & engagement	—	20%	Strong relevance
	IWRM	—	15%	Consistent with ex-ante priorities
Satisfaction & Engagement	Overall satisfaction (4–5)	—	78%	Very strong result
	Interest in receiving project results	—	83%	High post-event engagement
	Interest in future events	—	83%	High continuity potential
	Interest in ambassador role	—	44%	Motivated participant subset
	Desire for no further contact	—	11%	Very low disengagement

Annex 5: GESI charter and checklist

INN WATER

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

CHARTER FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

1 INCLUSIVE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
for the duration of the project.

- Ensure gender diversity in the project's decision-making bodies,
- Raise awareness and initiate discussions on gender issues,
- Actively encourage the participation of all genders, with particular focus on disadvantaged groups
- Creating an inclusive working environment.

2 GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION OBJECTIVES

- Move towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 5) "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls",
- Pay attention to gender balance and representation of vulnerable groups in InnWater activities,
- Test and validate the results of the project from a gender point of view,
- Use the checklist.

3 SPECIAL ATTENTION TO INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION

- Use inclusive language,
- Pay attention to gender diversity in communication products,
- Avoid gender stereotypes in visuals,
- Avoid communication that reinforces gender stereotypes,
- Communicating the integration of the gender dimension into the project.

Social characteristics to be aware of include, but are not limited to:

- *Gender*
- *Race*
- *Class*
- *Disability*
- *Marital status*
- *Immigration status*
- *Geographical location*
- *Level of education*
- *Religion*
- *Ethnicity*

4 IMPACT OF InnWater IMPLEMENTATION ON GENDER

- Consider InnWater objectives under the light of gender balance,
- Identify inequalities, barriers and opportunities,
- Identify good practices integrating the gender dimension and lessons learned to pass them on.

5 MONITORING GENDER EQUALITY IN InnWater

- Carry out a gender analysis of InnWater activities,
- Define and use gender-specific indicators to improve knowledge (adapt UNESCO indicators).

INN WATER

WHAT CAN WE DO?
Some tips

1 PROMOTE INCLUSIVE PROJECT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES for the duration of the project.

Raising awareness and discussing gender issues
- Organise 1 or 2 awareness-raising sessions for staff at the start of the project,
- Define terms to have a common vocabulary,

Actively encourage the participation of women and ensure that there is parity in terms of exchanges and in the allocation of roles (WP leader for example, speakers at meetings, etc.),

Create an inclusive working environment where every member of the consortium feels valued and respected, regardless of gender or other social characteristics,

Commit to a policy of zero tolerance of discrimination especially on the grounds of sex, or age,

Promoting work-life balance
- Avoid meetings late at night or early in the morning,
- Organise travel in advance,

Appoint a gender coordinator for the project

2 SETTING TARGETS FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IN INNWATER ACTIVITIES

In the project design
- Define objectives for integrating gender and other social characteristics into the project's innovative proposals
    - Integrate the gender and social dimensions when analysing the project's tools and methods to see if there are any specific issues related to gender or any other social characteristics (inventory),
    - Integrating the gender and social dimensions into the definition/creation of actions, tools and methods,
    - Implement actions, tools and methods that take account of the gender and social dimensions.
- **Collect** gender-specific **indicators** to measure the achievement of objectives (see §5),
- **Ensure that economic measures do** not unbalance gender relations.

Respect gender diversity and social inclusion in meetings and workshops
- Balance the number of women and men in the allocation of speaking time,
- Balance the number of women and men taking part, particularly in consultation workshops,
- Ensure social inclusion by targeting vulnerable groups
- Plan awareness-raising sessions to combat gender stereotypes.

On the ground, experiment/test actions integrating gender and social dimensions in Pilot Sites
- Taking diversity into account (balancing women, men, vulnerable groups for social inclusion) when recruiting volunteers for local water forums, for example,
- Implement innovations (or actions) on the ground that encourage the participation of women and people with socio-economic and/or geographical difficulties.

INN WATER

WHAT CAN WE DO?
Some tips

3 FOCUS ON INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION

Using inclusive language

- Avoid using masculine generic words to designate mixed groups,
- Use epicene terms (words whose form does not vary between masculine and feminine),
- Use alphabetical order.

Develop communication without gender stereotypes, both orally and in writing

- Use images and illustrations that represent the diversity of genders and roles,
- Avoid gender stereotypes in visuals,
- Ensure that there is a balance between the number of women and men in communication media and speaking time and roles (in interviews, images, videos, verbatim reports, computer graphics, etc.).

Communicate how can InnWater take gender equality and social inclusion into account?

- Writing articles, posts on social networks, posters at events, etc,
- Promote the work carried out with women and vulnerable groups as part of the project,
- Produce publications on the methods used,
- Drafting publications on lessons learned and feedback from the project team.

Examples: Chairman =) Chairperson

4 ANALYSE THE IMPACT OF InnWater ACTIVITIES ON GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

! These actions are linked to §5 on monitoring

Look at the impact of the project on gender equality and social inclusion

- Identify whether there are any specific benefits that the project brings to women and men, and to vulnerable groups such as access to governance, recognition of their role in implementing experiments in the field, etc.
- Identify inequalities, obstacles and opportunities in the project

Identify good practice and lessons learned,

- Gather and share feedback information, lessons learned, data, policy recommendations at European, regional and national levels.

INN WATER

WHAT CAN WE DO?

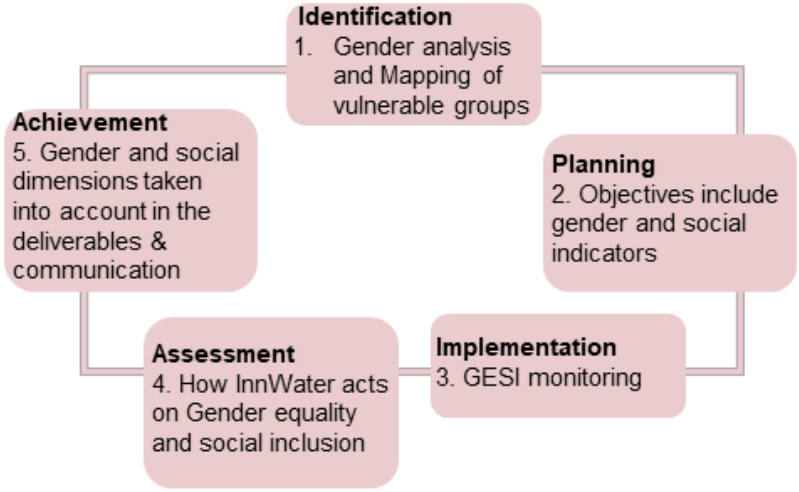
Some tips

5 MONITORING GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IN INNWATER

Impact of the project activities: what does InnWater contribute to?

- Perception by vulnerable groups and male and female members of local communities of the effects of the project's actions (possibly by means of a questionnaire distributed at forums, meetings, workshops, etc.) – *by WP and PS leaders ?*
  - Access to governance, enhancing their role in implementing experiments in the field
  - Obstacles, inequalities, barriers and opportunities in the project
- A gender equality and social inclusion training/awareness-raising programme is drawn up for the local stakeholders involved in the project (outside the consortium) – *WP6?*
  - Yes/no/why, if yes % men % women who have benefited from training/awareness-raising,
- Impact of water tariffs on vulnerable groups as well as men and women; consider the impact on women and men of possible changes in water tariffs on the basis of assumptions (e.g. based on national data on income differences between men and women – *WP4?*
- Policy brief including recommendations based on GESI experience in InnWater (M34)

Recap: Steps to take gender equality and social inclusion into account in InnWater



INN WATER

CHECK LIST

Self-evaluation

	Check list*	Yes/No		
		Before start-up	Mid term	At the end
1	Have I taken steps in the management of the project to ensure that decision-making processes is gender balance oriented?			
2	Have I carried out a gender analysis and mapping of vulnerable groups to understand the differential impact of InnWater on men and women including different socio-economic groups?			
3	Have I identified priority actions in the project aimed at promoting gender equality and social inclusion?			
4	Have I implemented priority actions to promote the balanced participation of men and women in project activities, as well as vulnerable groups?			
5	Have I used gender-specific indicators taking into account intersectionality to analyse the impact of the project?			
6	Have I used project monitoring and evaluation indicators to measure progress in promoting gender equality and social inclusion?			
7	Have I organised or taken part in awareness-raising and/or training sessions on gender equality and social inclusion as part of the project?			
8	Have I used inclusive, non-stereotypical language?			
9	Have I organised or taken part in specific communication actions on gender in the project?			
10	Do the project's communication materials present a balanced representation of men and women in various roles and responsibilities?			
11	In my activities, have I proposed adjustments or adaptations based on feedback and lessons learned to improve the project's GESI approach?			
12	*Adding specific questions to the implementation of the project*			

** Some can be non relevant, depending on the event/deliverable/tool...*

INN WATER

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

@InnWater

https:/www.innwater.eu/

contact.innwater@oieau.fr