

WATER4ALL  
PARTNERSHIP

# Water4All

## Water security for the Planet

Ariane BLUM (Water4All Coordinator, French National Research Agency)



EU Green Week, 27 August 2024



#WaterWiseEU



European Partnership

[www.water4all-partnership.eu](http://www.water4all-partnership.eu)



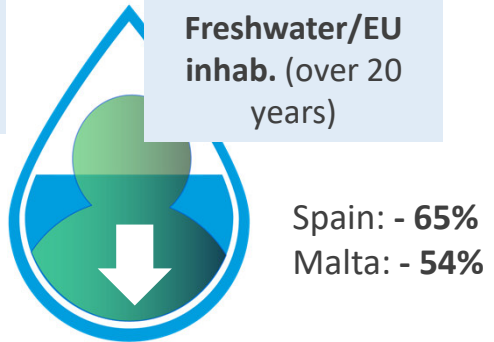
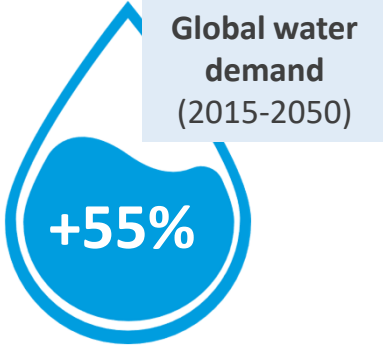
Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Why Water4All ? What are the Water Challenges we have to face ?



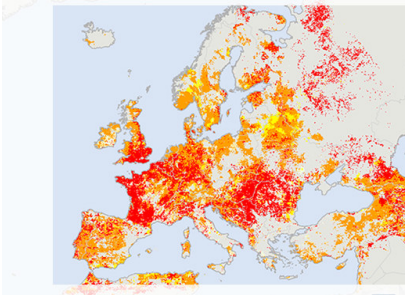
**Water, a major issue for**

Life on Earth  
Ecosystems  
Human activities



**Droughts  
Floods  
Pollution**

**Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC**  
60% EU surface water bodies in poor status  
30% EU groundwater bodies in poor status



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

**Climate change effects**

**Increase damage on water resource**

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

**Water is one of the 49 priorities Horizon Europe Programme**



\* Figures: UN 2023, IPCC 2023

# Water4All consortium

**Start: June 2022**



## Partners



## 33 countries

- 23 EU Member States
- 10 non EU countries



## Budget

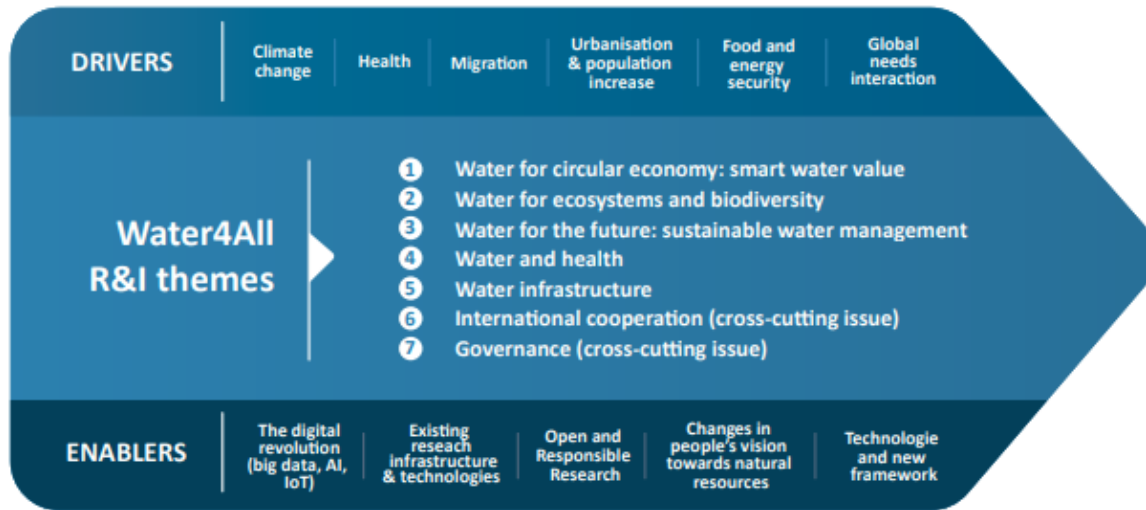
Phase 1: 86M€, 26M€ from the EC  
 Phase 2 : from June 2024: 103 M€, 31M€ from the EC

For the decade : 420 M€ expected (126 M€ from EU)

### A “new” way of supporting Research

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

# RDI themes & Strategic Research Innovation Agenda



**Revision: 2025**

2<sup>nd</sup> consultative workshop,  
Digital tools for a water smart society  
Lisbon, 3-4 June 2024

After a large consultation process



Public consultation



Working groups (experts, stakeholders...)

# Water4All's RDI themes and the Strategic Research Innovation Agenda : the place of Groundwater

## ■ A dedicated sub-theme

THEME III. Water for the future: sustainable water management	
III.I. Integrated water resources management.	Modelling tools, integrated water management
III.II. River basin management.	Water Framework Directive, programmes of measures, natural water retention measures
III.III. Groundwater management.	Managed aquifer recharge, Nature-based solutions
III.IV. Resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events.	Water scarcity, disaster management, hydroclimatic extreme events
III.V. Tools for water management	Big data, Earth observation, monitoring tools, artificial intelligence, decision support, scenario analysis, digital twins

## ■ A place in link with other topics and sub-theme

THEME I. Water for circular economy: smart water value	
I.I. Water supplies for socio-economic development and activities, such as agricultural, aquaculture, urban, industrial and energy uses.	Water allocation, water demand, smart technologies, new water sources
I.II. Circular economy.	Recovery, valorisation, Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems nexus, green transition
THEME II. Water for ecosystems and biodiversity	
II.I. Functioning and biodiversity.	Monitoring, evaluation and prediction tools, multiple pressures, vulnerable ecosystems
II.II. Resilience, mitigation and adaptation of aquatic ecosystems and ecosystem services to global changes	Adaptation, mitigation, green/ blue infrastructure, Nature-based solutions
THEME VI. International cooperation (cross-cutting theme)	
VI.I. Water diplomacy.	Alignment, benefit sharing, trust, early warning, conflict management
VI.II. Establishing tools for trans-boundary cooperation.	Data, cooperation barriers
VI.III. Developing integrated, fair and adaptive water resource manage-	Water allocation, gender, vulnerability, water management sche-

# Water4All activities



## 6 annual Joint Transnational Calls (2022-2028)

### “Additional Activities”

<b>1</b>	<b>2022</b> 27 projects 27 M€	<b>“Management of water resources: resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events and management tools”</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>2023</b> 34 M€ (6 M€ EC)	<b>“Aquatic Ecosystem Services”</b> (59 pre-proposals in step 2) <i>Knowledge Hub, early carrier researcher</i>	
<b>3</b>	<b>2024</b> 32 M€	<b>“Water for Circular Economy”</b> (pre-announcement: July. Open: Sept.)	
<b>4</b>	<b>2025</b> 32 M€	<b>“Water and Health”</b> (pre-announcement: July. Open: Sept.)	
.....			



- Identification of Research gaps, needs
- International Cooperation
- Training and capacity buildings, PhD Schemes
- Observatories and R&I infrastructures
- Support to SMEs (EU incubator, transfer...)
- Water Oriented Living Labs
- Platform of solutions for water management (including ecosystem restoration)
- Open data, open science (knowledge hub, open database) with a transdisciplinary approach

# JTC1 “Management of water resources: resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events and management tools”

## TOPICS



Resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events



Tools for water management - in the context of hydroclimatic extreme events

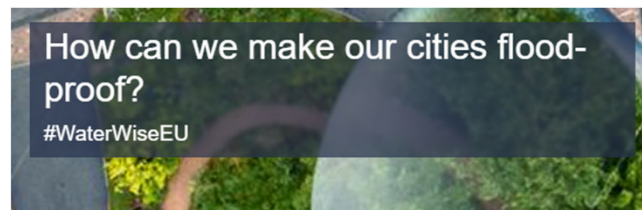


Improved water governance in the context of hydroclimatic extreme events and international contexts

- 27 funded projects funded in JTC1 (2022): “Management of water resources for increased resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events”

→ 7 projects dealing with Groundwaters

- Budget 27M€
- Kick Off Meeting 23-24 April 2024, Madrid, Spanish State Research Agency (AEI)



## FOR DOWNLOAD



## 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Transnational Calls



- 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Transnational Call : “**Aquatic Ecosystems Services**”, Final results to be published at the end of September 2024
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Joint Transnational Call (32M€): “**Water and circular economy**” theme from the SRIA,

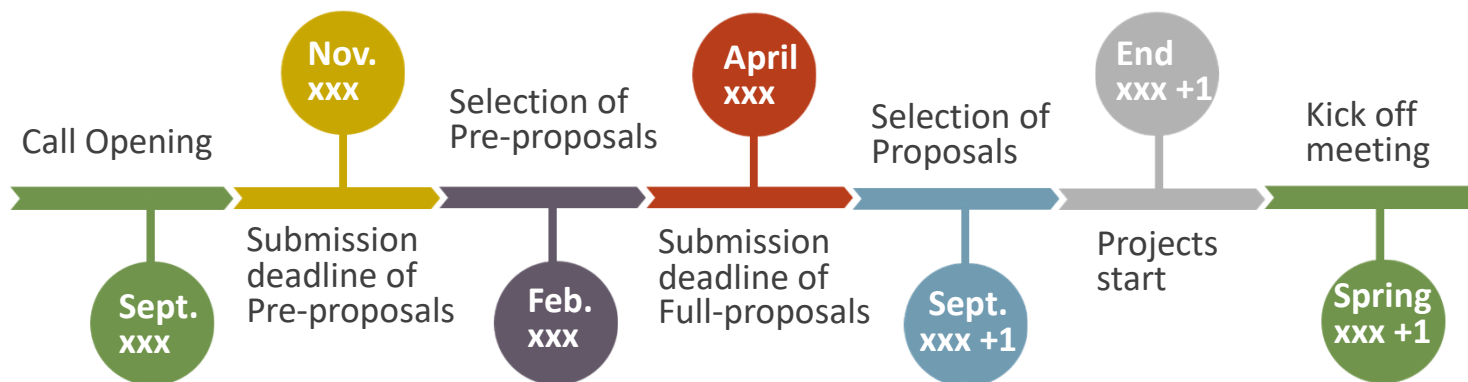
### Pre announcement

- **Topic 1:** Enhancement of water circularity in industries.
- **Topic 2:** Urban water circularity.
- **Topic 3:** Resource recovery and valorization.
- **Topic 4:** Economic, environmental and social implications of water reuse and recovered products

- 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Transnational Call (32M€): “**Water and Health**” theme from the SRIA, September 2025

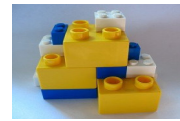
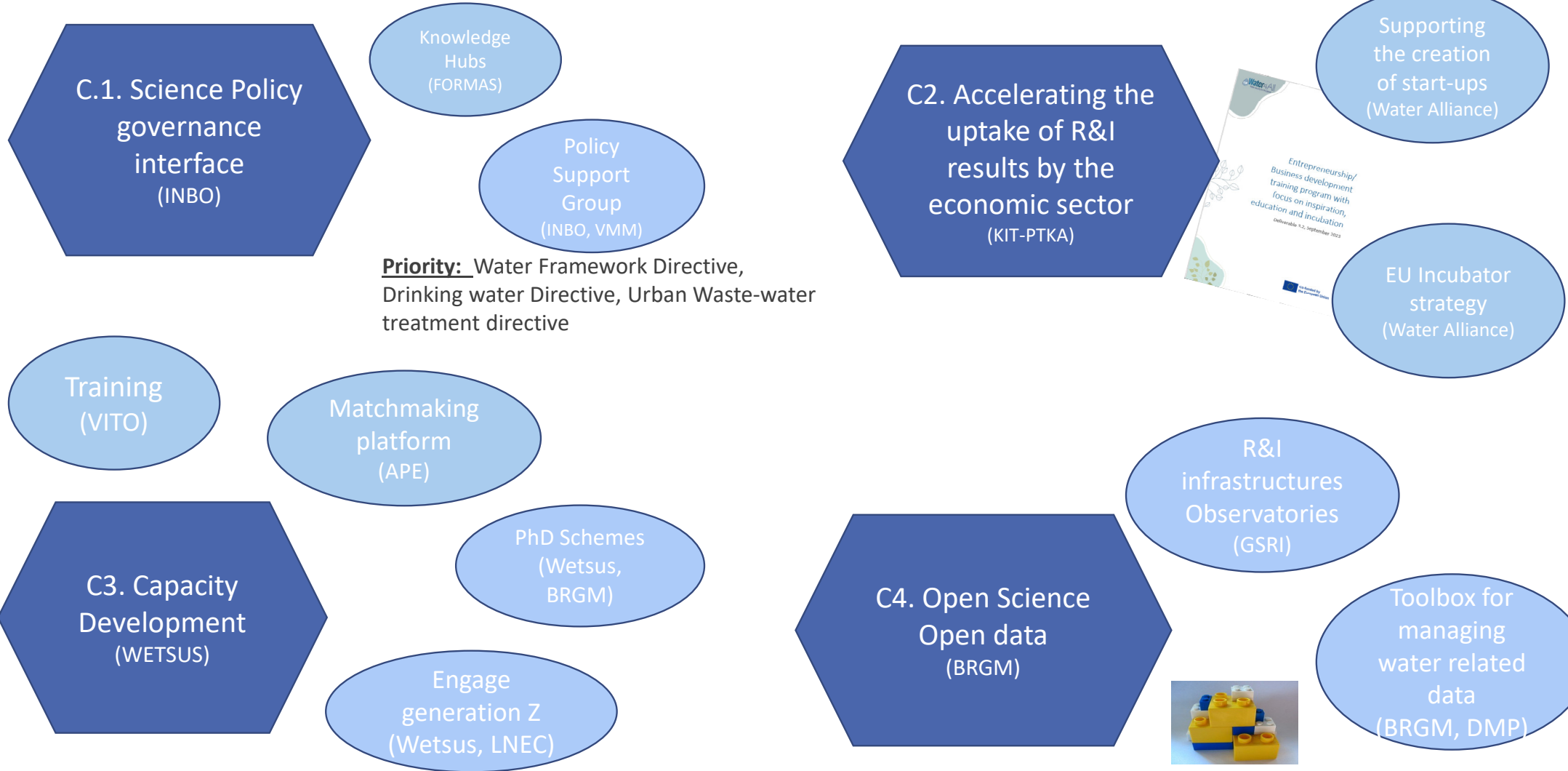
### Main modalities

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





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



# About the demonstration activities (Pillar D)



## WOLL event 19 June 2024, Brussels (Water Europe Innovation Week)



**ATLAS OF WATER-ORIENTED LIVING LABS 2024**

European Partnership

Co-funded by the European Union

**WATERCLIMATEHUB**

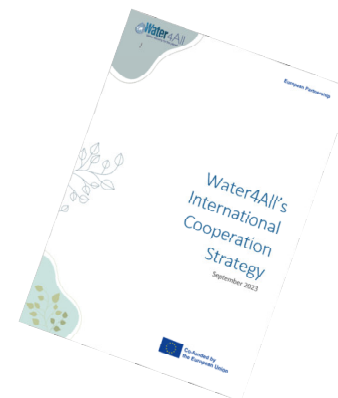
Geographical scale Region  
WOLL Type Mixed  
Year of establishment 2021

**WOLL Representative**

"Trust between stakeholders is key when establishing a WOLL and takes time to build up together in cooperation where each member is encouraged to win-win win for all partners."



# About international activities



- Supporting the dissemination of EU « solutions » worldwide  
And strengthening international cooperation)
- On-going discussions with the World Bank (Africa)
- Strengthening the collaboration with UNESCO (Inter-governemental Hydrologic Programme – IHP)

## International conferences

- UN Water Conference 2023  
→ Next one in 2026



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

- World Water Forum Bali, 24-28 May 2024  
Water4All has contributed to (Topic 6) : “Knowledge and innovation”
  - › TCG 6A. Smart Water Management and technological innovation
  - › **TCG 6D. Upscaling of water information systems**



# Conclusions : Water4All and the EU water resilience

The key role of **Research and Innovation**

**Cooperation** to speed up and to be more resilient

Water4All's contributions to EU water resilience :

- **Knowledge and solutions**

- JTCs funded projects
- Solutions developed by PhDs, SMEs, Research centers

- **Awareness:**

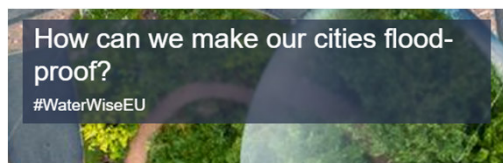
- policy makers, citizens (WOLLs..), youths, ...
- policy briefs, communications, international conferences

→ **Data Sharing!**

- **Networking !**

In Europe and beyond → **International cooperation**

In close connections with **other Horizon Europe Partnerships and Missions**



Agro-Ecology partnership





THANK YOU



Follow us!

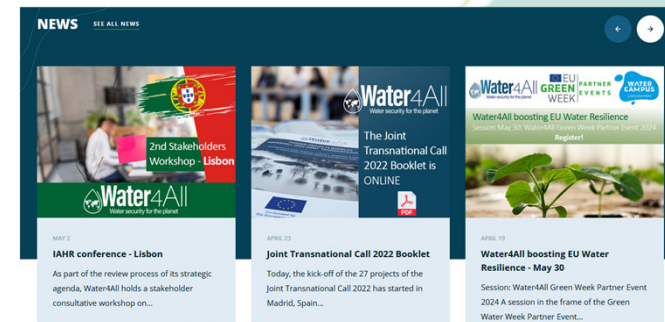
[Ariane.BLUM@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:Ariane.BLUM@agencerecherche.fr)

[Water4All@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:Water4All@agencerecherche.fr)

[www.water4all-partnership.eu](http://www.water4all-partnership.eu)



Co-funded by  
the European Union



#WaterWiseEU