



EUROPEAN UNION



AquaSPICE

**Insights on the EU's perspective
on industrial sustainable water
management.**

11 December 2024

Final Conference
Bertrand Vallet – DG RTD



THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME **2021 – 2027**

H2020 heritage on water and circular economy

- Circular economy was a big challenge in Horizon 2020 programme
- Over 280 M€ granted to projects connecting water and circular economy (not only water calls)
- Multiple focus:
 - Nutrients recovery
 - Energy recovery
 - Water reuse
 - Material recovery
 - Optimisation of plant operation
 - Governance
- A lot of technologies developed
- Objective: ensure market uptake for the most relevant innovations

	Integrated Water Resource Management
	Protection and restoration of Water Ecosystems
	Net-Zero Water Management
	Water and Circular Economy
	Pollution Monitoring
	Resilience of Water infrastructure



Some key messages from CE water related projects – Post IWA 2019 workshop

- Certification Schemes and Standardization
- Cross-sector collaboration and industrial symbiosis
- need to address different approaches in **End-of-Waste** through harmonized framework
- Need to raise awareness and ensure engagement of **value chain actors**
- Circular Economy aspects need to be included in the new UWWTD.
- regulatory changes / adjustments are needed to harmonize policy across sectors in order to **facilitate secondary raw materials reuse from wastewater**.
- need for regulation at the EU level to set safe limits for **sludge use**.

Cluster 6 Work Programme 2023-2024

2023

- Harnessing the innovation potential and market uptake of successful **circular economy water related projects** - CSA



BOOST-IN



CIRSEAU

- Improve the reliability and effectiveness of **alternative water resources** supply systems and technologies



MARCLAIMED



AWARD



- European Partnership Water Security for the Planet (Water4All)



Water4All
Water security for the planet

2024

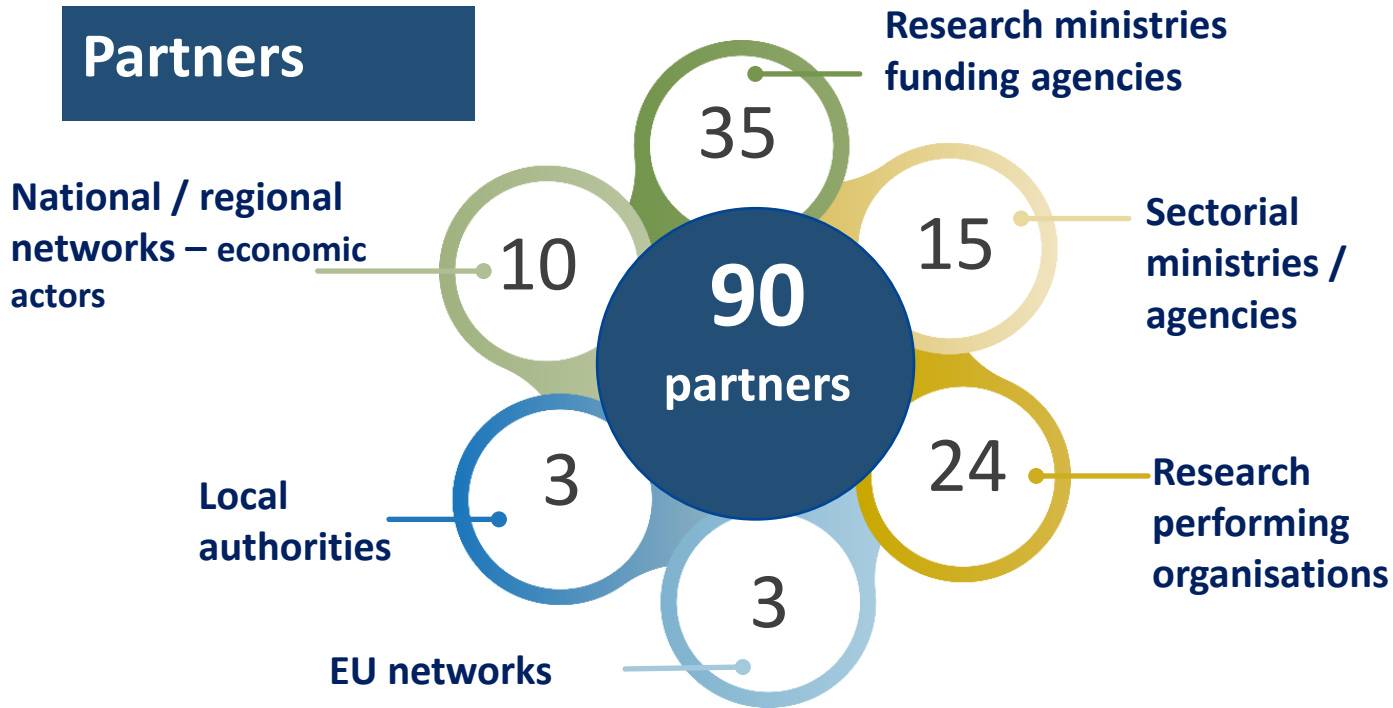
- New circular solutions and decentralised approaches for water and wastewater management – CircBio – €15 million – **2nd stage evaluation**

Cluster 4 Work Programme 2023-2024

- Sustainable and efficient industrial water consumption: through energy and solute recovery (Processes4Planet partnership)



Partnerships – Water4All



Budget

Start: June 2022

Phase 1: 86M€, 26M€ from the EC

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

For the decade: 420 M€ expected (130 M€ from EU)

33 countries



Water4All Activities

6 Annual Joint Transnational Calls (2022-2028)

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

1 2022
27 projects
27 M€

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



2 2023
34 M€
(6 M€ EC)

“Aquatic Ecosystem Services”
(59 pre-proposals in step 2)
Knowledge Hub, early career researcher



3 2024
32 M€

“Water for Circular Economy”
(just closed)



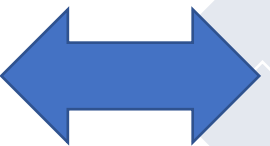
4 2025
32 M€

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



“Additional Activities”

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

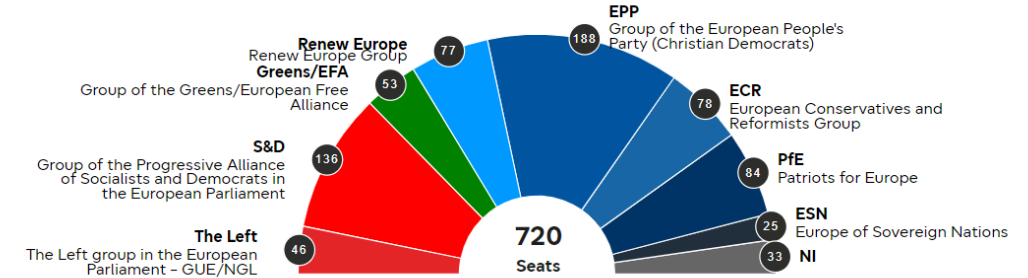


European Elections – New Commission

European Parliament 2024 – 2029

Constitutive session

- New EU parliament
- Ursula van der Leyen (DE) reelected as President of the European Commission



- Orientations given by the Political Guidelines and mission letters.



European Elections – Political guidelines

- **A Clean Industrial Deal**
- **Industrial Decarbonation Accelerator Act**
- Green Diplomacy
- **Circular Economy Act**
- New chemical industry package
- European AI research Council
- European Data Union Strategy
- Strategy for European Life Science
- **Vision for Agriculture and Food**
- *European Climate adaptation plan*
- **A new European Water Resilience Strategy**
- *An Ocean Pact*
- *New pact for the mediterranean*
- Mutual partnership with Africa
- new Strategic EU-India Agenda – International strategy

European Water Resilience Strategy

- A European Water Resilience Strategy to strengthen **water security**
 - Address water efficiency, water scarcity, pollution and water related risk.
 - Enhance competitive edge of water industry, take a circular economy approach, and digitalise water management, cycles and utilities.
 - Facilitate public and private investment in technology and cross-border water infrastructure.
 - Strengthen EU global water leadership.
- Connected to other initiatives of the political guidelines
- What Contribution AquaSPICE can bring?

Thank you!

Questions?

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