



“Internationalisation” working group

Newsletter #5

July 2022

Beyond “Internationalisation” WG meetings every two months, this newsletter aims at allowing all WG members to share international water-related information on a monthly basis. In summary: international opportunities for water companies, enterprises’ calls for partners at the international scale, WG members international news, projects and opportunities and upcoming international water-related events.

WG members international news, projects and opportunities

A look back at the euWater4i-SD Innovation Forum in IFAT

On May 31st, the **first international event of euWater4i-SD, the Innovation Forum**, took place as part of IFAT Munich. **More than 60 participants** from all over the world gathered to meet innovative European companies offering water-smart solutions and to learn more about the opportunities of the Latin American and Eastern African water markets.



After a short presentation of euWater4i-SD by Clémence Pierre, **Prof. Michael Braungart** welcomed the participants with a **keynote speech** on "Becoming native to our planet – new challenges and strategies for water management". The main part of the event was dedicated to the **innovative solutions of European companies in water-related fields**. 14 companies from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Spain presented themselves, their products and services as well as their international activities in 5-minute pitches.

Finally, the floor was given to **Mr. Philip Storch**, Vice President Sales Management Water at KSB SE & Co. KGaA, to present KSB’s activities in Sub-Sahara Africa, as well as to **Mr. Lucas Martins** from Companhia Aguas de Joinville (CAJ) to present the opportunities of the Brazilian water market.

Find out more about this event: <https://clustercollaboration.eu/community-news/euwater4i-sds-first-international-event-innovation-forum-took-place-during-ifat>

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Following IFAT: Networking between Finish companies by Blue Economy Mikkeli

As a continuation for IFAT trade fair in Munich, **Blue Economy Mikkeli** organised a networking event for Finnish companies on June 15th-16th 2022 in Mikkeli. The program included a visit to the state of the art [WWTP in Mikkeli](#) and a **workshop on waterworks challenges**. In the workshop the water utilities of three Finnish cities: Mikkeli, Oulu and Kuopio presented their activities and current challenges:

- Network management
- Optimization of the wastewater treatment process
- Knowledge-based management

Participants discussed the topics and presented their solutions in working groups. The event was a successful and fruitful way to **bring together water industry experts to discuss current challenges and network** with each other.

Blue Economy Mikkeli and Finnish companies will participate in European Water Tech Week in Leeuwarden Netherlands in September 2022. Welcome to visit our booth at international cluster pavilion!

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Water4All (Horizon Europe): International opportunities for EU SMEs

The [Water4All \(Water security for the planet\) project](#), co-funded by the European Union through the Horizon Europe programme, officially started on June 1st, 2022 for seven years. Its general objective is to **stimulate transformations**

in the entire EU Research, Development and Innovation sector in the field of water, especially by promoting the connection between problem owners and solution providers.

In this framework, several actions will be aimed at **fostering international cooperation on water-related issues in the RDI and B2B sectors**, and especially developing new tools and new approaches. One of the actions, led by VITO, will consist in organizing **EU workshops during international water-related trade shows**. The objective of these workshop will be to allow RDI actors to present their work, but mostly for **EU Tech (especially SMEs) to pitch their solutions and meet users/challenge owners from non-EU countries**. A networking time will also be planned, and potentially matchmaking or B2B sessions between solutions providers and end users/challenge owners.

As **France Water Team and Water Alliance are involved in this action**, they will each organize one workshop during international water-related fairs between 2022 and 2024: **if you have any suggestion of relevant fair or if you wish to contribute, please feel free to contact us!**

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Upcoming international water-related events

IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition – Copenhagen, September 11th – 15th, 2022



The IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition is the **global event for water professionals covering the full water cycle**. Join over 10,000 leading water professionals and companies convened by the International Water Association. During 6 days, **thought-leaders, decision makers, leading researchers and business representatives** from within and outside the water sector will focus on water solutions to shape our water future.

This edition of the #WorldWaterCongress & Exhibition, will **report on the water sector progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. With an emphasis on SDG6, dedicated to water and sanitation, the Congress will also highlight and access the **interwoven relation of water with all 17 Global Goals**. Participants will analyse, discuss and highlight solutions at high-level summits, cases-study presentations and examples of implementation and cooperation towards the fulfilment of the SDGs.

For more information, please visit worldwatercongress.org

European Water Technology Week (EWTW) – Leeuwarden, September 19th – 22nd, 2022

During the second EWTW, **business and innovation leaders from companies, universities and governments** from the global water technology sector will meet and inspire each other in the innovative climate of WaterCampus Leeuwarden. There will be a special focus on clusters and therefore a **special**



programme for clusters and their member companies. There will be thematic sessions, a cluster pavilion, pitches & presentations, matchmaking and networking receptions. Please see below the official invitation. You are all invited to join this event with your members this fall.

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Let's stay in touch!



Find all relevant documents & find out more on other WG members on our shared repository: [click here](#)



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