

Third interregional Seminar & Study visits in France

On November 26–27, 2025, partners, regional representatives, and stakeholders of the Gov4Water project gathered in Orléans for two days dedicated to knowledge exchange and discussions on the challenges of water resource governance.

The event, organized by **Loire-Bretagne water agency** and **Pôle Aquanova**, brought together 28 participants and combined working sessions, thematic discussions, and field visits. During the interregional seminar, partners presented and discussed the third project document, dedicated to '**Governance needs and proposals**'. Key issues addressed included stakeholder involvement, financing, data and monitoring, skills development, and decision-making processes.

The discussions highlighted the importance of integrating water management into spatial planning, combining different sources of funding, and strengthening the role of environmental education and local data in improving communication about the risks and costs of inaction.

The second day was dedicated to a study visit to the Orléans area. Participants were able to observe concrete examples of climate adaptation and sustainable water management, including the ZAC du Larry urban project in the municipality of Olivet and the innovative water collection and reuse solutions developed by Javoy Nurseries.

The meeting provided an important opportunity to strengthen collaboration among partners and to share experiences that will support the development of future project activities.



Fourth interregional Seminar in Poland

From 20 to 22 May 2026, partners of the Gov4Water project will meet in Łódź (Poland) - hosted by partner **Lodzkie Region** - for the **4th Interregional seminar**, which will also include a Study visit and will be followed by a **Staff Exchange** session.

The meeting will focus on reviewing the progress of the project, sharing regional experiences, and discussing good practices in water governance.

The interregional seminar will provide an opportunity for partners and stakeholders to exchange knowledge and reflect on key governance challenges related to water resource management.

In addition, the staff exchange activities will enable participants to gain direct insight into partners' experiences and approaches, further strengthening cooperation and mutual learning within the project consortium.

Towards the transfer of good practices to improve regional policies

During the past months partners progressively developed **three analytical documents** that helped build a shared knowledge base on the challenges and opportunities related to water resource governance across the partner regions.

The first paper analysed the '**State of water resource and management**' in the partner regions. The second paper focused on '**Procedures of adapting water management to climate change**', while the third document explored '**Governance needs and proposals**', highlighting possible solutions and priorities for improvement.

Building on this preparatory work, over the next semesters partners will develop the document '**Good Practices transfer for policy improvement**', a living document that will support the next phases of the project. The document will capture the Staff Exchange process between partner regions and describe how the identified good practices will be adapted to different regional contexts.

The ultimate objective is to support the improvement of addressed policy instruments by documenting step by step how the knowledge and experiences shared within the project can lead to concrete improvements in public policies dedicated to sustainable water resource management.

Reducing water losses through district metering | Italy



In recent years, AURI and Umbra Acque have launched a major program to modernize the water network in Umbria, with the aim of reducing losses and improving the efficiency of the water supply system. Thanks to funding from the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, it has been possible to redevelop entire **water districts**, well-defined network systems monitored by digital tools that constantly measure incoming and outgoing water volumes.

The interventions involved the replacement of several kilometers of pipes, reducing the losses. In the municipality of Gualdo Tadino, for example, the replacement of approximately 10 km of pipework in the Palazzo Mancinelli district has made possible to recover 12 l/s. Experience shows that the integration of infrastructure renewal, monitoring technologies, and district management can be an effective and replicable model for improving water network management and reducing losses in the long term.

Torre Pacheco Storm Tank: rainwater management | Spain

The Torre Pacheco Storm Tank, built in 2023, is an innovative infrastructure for rainwater management in Spain. The system was designed to retain polluted urban runoff, prevent spills from combined sewer systems, and protect the fragile ecosystem of the Mar Menor. Built with an investment of approximately €4.2 million, the system consists of a two-stage storage tank with a pre-treatment unit for removing solids and a large retention tank for flood control. The system also includes automated cleaning mechanisms and design solutions that optimize the available urban space. The infrastructure allows collected rainwater to be conveyed to the treatment plant, where it can be reused for agricultural irrigation. This approach helps reduce the risk of flooding, improve water quality, and strengthen the climate resilience of the area, providing a model that can also be adapted to other European cities, particularly in Mediterranean regions exposed to extreme weather events.



Innovative solutions for urban stormwater management | Estonia



The LIFE UrbanStorm project, carried out in Estonia between 2018 and 2023, represents a good practice for strengthening the resilience of cities to heavy rainfall events. Coordinated by the Municipality of Viimsi with the involvement of scientific and institutional partners, the project has developed sustainable urban drainage solutions and nature-based solutions adapted to northern climates. Actions implemented include permeable parking lots, rain gardens, infiltration systems, and digital tools for monitoring stormwater, as well as the production of guidelines useful for other municipalities. The results demonstrate the effectiveness of these solutions: in Viimsi, critical events related to heavy rainfall have decreased significantly, while in the Tallinn demonstration area they have been eliminated. The project therefore offers a replicable model for improving urban water management and climate adaptation in many European cities.

Partners



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