



## Newsletter December 2025

### Content of EWA Newsletter Issue 06/2025

#### ► News from EWA

Selected stories of what happened since the last issue

#### ► News from EWA Members

News from our Members

#### ► EWA Events

Learn more about our future events and save the dates!

#### ► News from Brussels

Abstracts with links to download the full length articles

#### ► List of other events

#### ► Until we meet again

### News from EWA

### New Corporate Member

We are pleased to welcome **EYDAP** as the newest Corporate Member.



Athens Water Supply & Sewerage Company S.A. (EYDAP) is the largest Greek company in the water supply, sewerage and waste water treatment sector. EYDAP supplies water to approximately 4,400,000 customers (2,160,000 water meters) through a network of approximately 14,000 km. The main raw water sources and reservoirs are located in pure regions, free from agricultural and industrial activities. The sewerage sector serves 3,500,000 residents with sewers spreading at almost 9,500 km serves approximately. EYDAP has designed and implemented an integrated sewerage management system, designed to a proper, efficient and uninterrupted operation with the ultimate goal of protecting and ensuring public health.

You can learn more on their official [website](#).

### New Research Member



We are pleased to welcome **Aquafin** as the newest Research Member.

Aquafin is responsible for the pre-financing, development and management of municipal waste water treatment infrastructure in the Flemish region. This water treatment infrastructure includes sewage treatment plants, pumping stations, collectors and sewers, including stormwater runoff. In addition to this, Aquafin also has a research and development department, in which they investigate among others resource recovery, digital solutions, new future proof water purification technology, nature based

solutions, blue green infrastructure, greenhouse gas emission in sewers and waste water treatment etc.

This to achieve Aquafin's goal, clean brooks and an environment in harmony with water.  
You can learn more on their official [website](#).

Please join us in welcoming EYDAP and Aquafin in the EWA Network.

## EWA hosts the 19th Brussels Conference on Water Resilience and Investment



On 18th November, we successfully hosted our **19th Brussels Conference on Water Resilience and Investment: Navigating Climate Challenges**.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all speakers, sponsors, and participants whose contributions made this event a resounding success.

Throughout the day, we explored a range of critical topics shaping Europe's water landscape, including:

- 💧 **The Water Resilience Strategy**
- 💧 **The European Investment Bank's engagement in the water sector**
- 💧 **Climate change adaptation and mitigation across Europe**
- 💧 **The recast of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive**
- 💧 **The role of innovation, cutting-edge technologies, pilot projects, and collaborative research in driving climate adaptation, improving water efficiency, and fostering sustainable investment**

In addition to the conference, the week offered valuable opportunities for internal exchanges. On Monday, we held an in-person meeting of the **EWA European Policy Committee**, where we discussed the latest water-related developments in Brussels. Engaging face-to-face brought renewed energy to our discussions and strengthened our collaborative spirit.

We also convened our **Management Committee Meeting**, where members worked together to shape the future direction of the Association and prepare our upcoming activities and events.

Once again, we thank all EWA members for their continued support and extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed to these important meetings and events.

We would also like to thank our Gold Sponsor, **VEOLIA**, for their generous support.



## IFAT Munich 2026 - Secure your FREE Ticket!



The banner features a background image of soil and green plants. At the top, it says "World's Leading Trade Fair for Environmental Technologies". Below that, it says "May 4–7, 2026 | Messe München". At the bottom left is the website "ifat.de" and the IFAT Munich logo at the bottom right.

Secure a **FREE** ticket to IFAT Munich 2026  
Use the code **EWA\_2026**



You can already secure your tickets for **IFAT Munich 2026**, taking place from **May 4–7**!

Each ticket once again includes **free public transportation** in Munich, so be sure to take advantage of it. The code below is open to everyone—feel free to share it widely within your network.

We look forward to welcoming you to the EWA Booth, located at the entrance of Hall West.

Use the code "**EWA\_2026**" to redeem your day ticket in the [IFAT Ticket Shop](#).

Stay tuned for EWA's full programme! You can already saved the date on our next webinar on **January 15th**. We will talk about **Harnessing AI for Water: Lessons Learned and Future Horizons**. As soon as the registrations are open, we will let you know.

If you have any questions regarding EWA tickets, please contact us at [info@ewa-online.eu](mailto:info@ewa-online.eu)

## Warmest Season's Greetings from the EWA Secretariat!



As the year draws to a close, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your continued trust, collaboration, and engagement throughout 2025. Your support has made this year truly memorable, and we're excited for all that lies ahead in 2026.

Please note that the Secretariat will be closed from **19 December 2025 to 5 January 2026** (included).

We look forward to reconnecting in the new year and embarking on another inspiring chapter together.

**Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a bright start to 2026!**

## Survey on current monitoring practices across Europe



# Urban M<sub>2</sub>O

Urban water systems are facing increasing pressures from diverse and emerging pollutants, while striving to establish resilience and sustainable water management in our cities.

Across Europe, various initiatives and plans aim to reduce pollution and ensure access to clean water for all citizens. These plans require a great amount of data to identify problems, design solutions, and assess the impacts of pollution reduction actions.

However, current water quality monitoring methods and technologies are limited in scope, often require significant financial investments, and are labour-intensive.

Over the next four years, the EU-funded [Urban M2O project](#) will integrate sensor technologies with AI and digital tools to provide stakeholders and decision-makers with the necessary data and information to plan, design, and implement pollution control actions at the city-wide scale. To ensure that Urban M2O solutions can successfully support the ambitions of the European water sector, we need to better understand current practices and needs.

If you are involved in monitoring water quality in any urban water matrix (drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, surface waters, treated wastewater, groundwater, etc.), we would like to hear from you. We have prepared a survey to gather information about past and current monitoring activities, the monitored parameters, the resources invested (financial, workforce), and how the collected data are utilised. We are not looking at research activities, but at the everyday monitoring carried out by utilities, consultants and public authorities.

### REPLY TO THE SURVEY

*The survey will take up to 10 minutes of your time, and it is available in several European languages. The survey will be open until mid-December. The responses will help us tailor the development of the URBAN M2O tools to meet the needs of the water sector across Europe. You are also welcome to share the survey with colleagues in your organisation, in your city, or in your country.*

*If you have any questions, please contact the Project Coordinator (Luca Vezzaro, luve@dtu.dk)*

Thanks in advance for your time

*The Urban M2O consortium*

### News from EWA Members

20th DWF Water Conference - 27.01.2026



Our national Member, the **Danish Water Forum** has the pleasure to invite you to the **20th DWF Water Conference** on **27 January 2026**.

With more than 30 presentations and 10 posters this conference will give you the overview of the state-of-the-art within water science on the following topics:

- Groundwater
- Water treatment/Drinking water
- Waste water
- Wetlands and surface waters
- Climate adaptation
- Modelling
- Resource recovery
- Contaminants (incl. PFAS)

An overview of all presentations and posters is available on the website.

Venue: University of Copenhagen, Thorvaldsensvej 40, 1871 Frederiksberg

The registration for the conference is now open.

All info for the conference is available [HERE](#)

We hope that you will join this very important conference!

## EWA Events

### EWA/MARGIN Webinar: Groundwater Challenges in urban areas

27.01.2026 11:00AM - 12:15PM

Join us for the first **MARGIN Project webinar** !



This webinar will focus on the pressing challenges of urbanisation and its impact on water in cities. As part of the MARGIN project, the event will bring together experts, pilot cities, and stakeholders to exchange knowledge and raise awareness on extreme weather events and groundwater issues.

Featuring insights from the European Commission and real-world experiences from Munich, Germany and Linz, Austria, the webinar will explore key challenges and innovative solutions within the project framework.

Don't miss this opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogues and help to shape resilient urban water strategies across Europe.

More info on our [website](#)!

**REGISTER HERE**

Alpine cities face unique groundwater issues, including the impact of climate change and rising competition for groundwater use. To address these concerns, **MARGIN** helps cities understand their vulnerability and risk, building resilience to future groundwater changes. The project offers city-tailored management for upcoming groundwater difficulties, creating the potential to replicate best practices and accelerate their implementation in Alpine cities, thus strengthening preparedness and capacity to cope with the impacts of climate change.

[Learn more about the project.](#)

## News from Brussels

### Topics covered in the News from Brussels

The articles in the News from Brussels section here below cover the following topics:

1. Water Sector Warns Against EU Legislative “Simplification”
2. EIT Water Launches Innovation Community for Europe’s Water Challenges
3. Commission Launches Water Management Dialogues
4. European Water Academy Launch 2026: Survey Insights
5. Dutch PFAS Pesticide Use Soars 67%, Groundwater at Risk
6. 2025 EU Climate Progress: Strengthening Competitiveness
7. Council Urges Holistic Strategy to Protect Water and Boost Resilience
8. Ombudsman Flags Maladministration in Commission’s Urgent Legislation
9. European Parliament, water-related Parliamentary Questions
10. Upholding the law
11. EU Revises Water Framework Directive in 2026

#### **1. Water Sector Warns Against EU Legislative “Simplification”**

In a letter addressed to several commissioners, Aqua Publica Europea, EurEau, Water Europe, the European Water Association, and AquaFed defend the current regulatory framework and call for its proper implementation rather than amendment. The texts in question constitute the “backbone” of the water resilience strategy presented by the Commission in June.

Full article:

► [Water Sector Warns against EU legislative Simplification](#)

#### **2. EIT Water Launches Innovation Community for Europe’s Water Challenges**

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) has chosen the winning consortium that will lead EIT Water, the new Knowledge and Innovation Community in the Water, Marine and Maritime sectors and ecosystems. This marks a major step towards securing the continent’s water future, and to deliver innovations that can respond to environmental, economic and social pressures of Europe’s water systems.

Full article:

► [EIT Water](#)

#### **3. Commission Launches Water Management Dialogues**

As part of the implementation of the EU Water Resilience Strategy, the Commission is launching a series of Structured Water Dialogues with Member States, to jointly accelerate action to achieve the environmental objectives of EU water legislation.

Full article:

► [Commission Launches Water Management Dialogues](#)

## **4. European Water Academy Launch 2026: Survey Insights**

The upcoming European Water Academy (EUWA) is one of the pillars of the European Water Resilience Strategy. According to nearly half of the 127 respondents to a recent survey, EUWA should focus on technical skills for water operators. Concrete ideas about the academy will take shape during the European Water Resilience Forum which will be held on December 8 in Brussels. The target date for the launch of EUWA is set for June 2026.

Full article:

► [European Water Academy](#)

## **5. Dutch PFAS Pesticide Use Soars 67%, Groundwater at Risk**

The use of PFAS pesticides in agriculture and horticulture in the Netherlands has increased by about 67 percent over the past three years. This is shown in a new report from the Dutch research and advisory agency CLM on the use of PFAS-containing pesticides and the risks for groundwater, soil and drinking water.

Full article:

► [Dutch PFAS](#)

## **6. 2025 EU Climate Progress: Strengthening Competitiveness**

Every year, the Commission publishes the EU Climate Action Progress Report: an annual report on progress towards the EU's emission reduction targets. The report covers actual (historic) emissions and projected future emissions for the EU as a whole and for every EU Member State. It also includes information on different climate policy areas, EU legislative progress, climate finance and adaptation.

Full article:

► [EU Climate Progress](#)

## **7. Council Urges Holistic Strategy to Protect Water and Boost Resilience**

On October 21st, the Council approved conclusions on the European water resilience strategy. The conclusions reflect a unified call from environment ministers for stronger, coordinated action across Europe to address the growing water challenges facing the continent and regions within the EU.

Full article:

► [Council Urges Holistic Strategy](#)

## **8. Ombudsman Flags Maladministration in Commission's Urgent Legislation**

European Ombudswoman Teresa Anjinho has found a number of procedural shortcomings in how the European Commission prepared several legislative proposals that it considered urgent. Taken together the shortcomings amounted to maladministration.

The findings are based on three separate complaint-based inquiries that examined the extent to which the Commission applied the standard policy-making rules and procedures when preparing legislative drafts concerning corporate sustainability due diligence (Omnibus I), the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), and countering migrant smuggling.

Full article:

► [Ombudsman Flags Maladministration](#)

## **9. European Parliament, water-related Parliamentary Questions**

European Parliament, water-related Parliamentary questions.

Members of the European Parliament show a regular interest in water issues in their Parliamentary questions. In the period between 1 September 30th, 2025, and November 27th, 2025, 33 water-related questions were tabled, from Water scarcity to Nitrate derogation and many more.

Full article:

► [European Parliament Questions](#)

## 10. Upholding the law

The European Union is constitutionally designed as a Union of Law. According to the Treaties (Treaty on European Union, Treaty on Functioning of the European Union), Member States are obliged to comply with EU legislation adopted by the legislator (European Parliament and Council), and the Commission has the right and the obligation to scrutinise such compliance and where appropriate take legal action.

In recent weeks, the European Commission initiated a series of infringement procedures concerning various water-related issues. These range from the correct transposition of the Drinking Water Directive to matters related to water permits and the implementation of the Waste Framework Directive. The following countries are involved:

BULGARIA,  
LITHUANIA,  
MALTA,  
POLAND,  
PORTUGAL,  
SLOVAKIA,  
SWEDEN,  
AND the NETHERLANDS,

The Commission is also closing 95 cases where the issues with the Member States concerned have been solved. In these cases, the Commission does not have to pursue the infringement procedure further.

EWA NEWS provides you the key elements of the cases, an overview of the system of infringement procedures and links to environmental cases where the Court imposed financial sanctions.

Full article:

► [Upholding the law](#)

## 11. EU Revises Water Framework Directive in 2026

On December 3rd, the European Commission published its executive's REsourceEU plan which mentions a revision of the Water Framework Directive for the second quarter of 2026.

The Commission will review and revise the Water Framework Directive building on stakeholders' input and experiences in Member States, paying particular attention to simplification and the need to address potential bottlenecks, in order to promote circularity and access to critical raw materials in the EU, while protecting the environment and human health.

Full article:

► [EU revises WFD](#)

## Other events

### IFAT Saudi Arabia 2026

**26-28 January 2026 - Riad, Saudi Arabia**

IFAT Saudi Arabia, organized by dmg events and licensed by Messe München, in partnership with the National Center for Waste Management (MWAN), is making its eagerly awaited debut in Saudi Arabia from 26 – 28 January. The trade fair will be held at Riyadh Front Exhibition & Conference Center and will bring together the key players in waste, water and environmental technologies. Rapid industrialization, population growth and urban development have made water, waste management and circularity a top priority for the government in Saudi Arabia. The government's vision and proactive measures present great opportunities for solution providers in these sectors and customers, offering both environmental and lucrative economic benefits.



Download the [brochure](#) to learn more or visit the [official website](#).

## Novatech 2026

29 June - 3 July - Lyon, France

For over 30 years, the Novatech conference has established itself as an international benchmark in the promotion of strategies and solutions for integrated and sustainable urban water management and planning. For five days in Lyon, Graie, in partnership with the Metropole of Lyon and OTHU, brings together French and international scientists, decision-makers, facilitators, managers and designers, to exchange and share their experiences and develop a common culture of urban water management.

Learn more about the conference [here](#).



## IFAT Munich 2026

04-07 Mai 2026- Munich, Germany

IFAT Munich is the World's Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Waste and Raw Materials Management.

Here you can successfully present your strategies and new solutions from the fields of water, wastewater, waste and raw materials management. So that in future even more resources can be preserved in intelligent cycles in the long term and with the greatest possible efficiency.



More information about the fair on the [official website](#).

## Until we meet again...

The next EWA Newsletter will be sent out February 2026.



Until then, please visit us at:

- ★ [LinkedIn](#) (European Water Association)
- ★ [Youtube](#): EWA Online

*Any suggestions, comments or content from the members to the next issue may be send to this [email](#).*

### Legal Notice

#### European Water Association

Theodor-Heuss-Allee 17, 53773 Hennef

Germany

Tel.: +49 2242 872-189

[www.ewa-online.eu](http://www.ewa-online.eu)

#### Contact

Tel.: +49 2242 872-189

email: [info@ewa-online.eu](mailto:info@ewa-online.eu)

Pictures used in courtesy of: Shutterstock - CK Foto; EWA; Martin Srb

#### Unsubscribe from the newsletter

If you no longer wish to receive emails from us in the future, simply send a message to [herten@ewa-online.eu](mailto:herten@ewa-online.eu)

[Legal Notice](#) | [Privacy Statement](#) | [Contact](#) | [Become a Member](#)

© Copyright 2025 · EWA