



## Newsletter December 2023

### Content of EWA Newsletter Issue 06/2023

#### ► News from EWA

Selected stories of what has happened since the last issue

#### ► Other News

#### ► EWA Events

Learn more on 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

### Arthur Guischet to succeed Johannes Lohaus as EWA Secretary General

#### Congratulations!



We are pleased to introduce **Arthur Guischet**, EWA Water Policy Officer as the successor to General Secretary Johannes Lohaus.

Johannes Lohaus will retire after 18 years of dedicated service to the European Water Association (EWA). Arthur will officially assume the role on June 1st 2024, and in the interim, he will be serving as the Deputy Secretary General.

The European Water Association extends its gratitude to Johannes Lohaus for his exemplary leadership and welcomes Arthur Guischet as the incoming Secretary General, confident in his ability to drive the organization towards new heights.

You can read the full statement on our [press release](#).

## EWA Water Manifesto

### Have you read it yet?

#### EWA Water Manifesto: The Strategic Value of Water

This comprehensive document underscores the critical importance of water in Europe and advocates for prioritizing water management, access, and sustainability in European policies.

The EWA Water Manifesto emphasizes key principles, including responsible water resource management, universal access to clean

water, promotion of water sustainability, and strategies for climate adaptation. It's a significant step towards securing a water-secure future for Europe.

Read the [full manifesto](#) and join us in championing the cause of water sustainability in Europe.



## New Research Member

### TUM - Chair of Hydrology



Chair of Hydrogeology at TUM works in many hydrogeology fields linked to a sustainable groundwater development and providing clean resources for our future. Different working groups studying groundwater quality, quantity, and their changes due to climate change and urbanization as well as the potential to use it as sustainable energy resource. The Chair uses and further develops investigation methods as borehole geophysics, fiber optics, geochemistry, isotopic analysis, tracer technique and more and analyses data with statistics and simulation methods.

You can learn more on the official [website](#).  
We look forward to the collaboration!

## Enjoy the Holiday Season

We would like to wish you a great holiday season and the best wishes for a healthy new year!

Please note that the EWA Secretariat will be closed from **21.12.2023 until 02.01.2024**.



## OTHER NEWS

### Call for Paper/Abstract and Online Course

#### ► 19th IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologie

Essen, Germany - 24 – 28 June 2024

Deadline: 15 December 2023 Deadline for outline paper submission

More information: [IWA LET Website](#)

#### ► WMCC 2024: Water Management in Changing Conditions

IFAT Munich, Germany - 14 & 15 May 2024

Deadline: 15.01.2024 Abstract Submission Deadline

More information: [WMCC Website](#)

#### ► 14th IWA Specialized Conference on the Design, Operation and Economics of Large Wastewater Treatment Plants

Budapest, Hungary - 8 - 12 September 2024

Deadline for abstracts submission: 16 January 2024

More information on the [IWA LWWTP Conference website](#)

**►Digital World Water Camp**

*Digital WORLD WATER CAMP 2024 (WWC) is an on-line course aimed at undergraduate and graduate students with interest in environmental issues related to drinking water, wastewater, and climate adaptation.*

Online to be held February- May 2024

Deadline to register: January 1, 2024

More information on the [Digital WWC Website](#)

**EWA EVENTS****Next EWA FREE Webinar**

**DIGITALISATION  
IN THE WATER SECTOR:  
WASTE WATER TREATMENT PROCESS**

**EWA** |   
EUROPEAN WATER ASSOCIATION

 05.12.2023  
 10:00 - 11:30 (CET)  
 Online

**FREE  
WEBINAR**



**Webinar Sponsor: Bentley®**  
Advancing Infrastructure



In today's changing world, the influence of digital technologies can be seen in nearly every sector. The water utility sector is no exception. Digitalisation is often mentioned as a key tool to achieve current and upcoming regulatory goals and to support the decarbonisation objectives in the water sector.

But how is the digital transformation impacting the water sector?

This event will facilitate a discussion on the current and upcoming digitalisation aspect of the water sector and wastewater management. One of the main discussed points will be cyber security. We will also hear from professionals on their experiences and know-how.



# PROGRAM

10:00 - 10:05

Welcome Address



Arthur Guischet - EWA Deputy Secretary General

10:05 - 10:30



Navigating the Waters of Cybersecurity:  
Unveiling the Impact of NIS2 Directive on Drinking and Waste Water  
Companies

Marianthi Theodoridou - Cybersecurity Expert at European Union Agency  
for Cybersecurity (ENISA)

10:30 - 11:10

Round Table



Cloud-powered Solutions for Water and Wastewater Systems

Slavco Velickov - Global Advancement Director, Water Industry  
Bentley Systems, Inc.



Presentation of the DIGIWATER project achievements

Daan Buekenhout - KU Leuven - DIGIWATER Project - Erasmus+



Digitalisation and artificial intelligence in the sewage network

Johannes Laures - Deputy Chief Operating Officer - Zehnen Technik

11:10 - 11:25

Q&A with the audience

11:25 - 11:30

Conclusion and closing

**REGISTER  
NOW!**

## MEET THE SPONSOR

**Bentley**<sup>®</sup>  
Advancing Infrastructure

**Bentley's** mission is to provide innovative applications and services for the enterprises and professionals who design, build, and operate the world's infrastructure – advancing both the global economy and the environment for improved quality of life. In particular, Bentley has helped water utilities, governments, and engineering firms around the world demonstrate excellence and cutting-edge digital advancements in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. Learn more at [www.bentley.com](http://www.bentley.com)

Introduction Course to EU Water Policy and Legislation


## Only a few spots left!

12 & 13.12.2023 - 15:00-17:00 - Online

Join us for a deep dive into the essential aspects of EU water policy and legislation. During this course, participants will:

- ➡ Gain a comprehensive understanding of the development and principles of EU water policy.
- ➡ Explore the decision-making and implementation/scrutiny process.
- ➡ Learn about governance at the EU level, focusing on openness, transparency, and citizens' rights to access documents.
- ➡ Discover the rights of complaint and petition, empowering you to make a difference.
- ➡ Explore the key legislative elements of EU water policy and their practical implementation.

Whether you are an environmental enthusiast, a policymaker, or someone looking to expand your knowledge, this webinar will equip you with the insights and tools you need to navigate the intricate landscape of EU water policy.



**INTRODUCTION COURSE TO EU WATER POLICY AND LEGISLATION**

**12 & 13 DECEMBER**  
From 3pm to 5pm

**LIVE WEBINAR**

Join us!

**with Dr. Helmut Blösch**  
Former Head of the Water Sector at the EU Commission, Brussels

> REGISTER NOW

## IFAT Munich 2024

### Secure your free ticket!

The time has arrived! You can finally secure your tickets for IFAT Munich 2024 from May 13th to May 17th.

We can't wait to welcome you at our EWA Booth at the entrance of Hall West.

Use the code "**EWA\_2024**" and secure your day ticket on the [IFAT Ticket Shop](#).

This year EWAs program is very promising as we will address many topics:

- ➡ Qualification and Staff Recruitment in the Water Sector
- ➡ Strengthening water availability through seawater desalination
- ➡ Water Reuse

We are also organizing an event with the **International Water Association** and we are also inviting you to our **Conference on Water Management in Changing Conditions** (WMCC 2024) on May 14th and 15th. You can already submit your abstract. More information on the [official website](#).

Don't hesitate to check our [website](#) for updates on IFAT Munich.

# COME VISIT US!

**SECURE YOUR FREE TICKET**

USE THE CODE  
**EWA\_2024**





© Alex Fettich



Secure a FREE ticket to IFAT Munich 2024 –  
The World's Leading Trade Fair for Water,  
Sewage, Waste and Raw Materials Management

## 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. Glyphosate: end of the debate (?)
2. New research results on prediction of mega-floods
3. OECD paper on water-related risks in the financial system
4. Court of Auditors Special Report "Soil" - EU efforts for sustainable soil management – Unambitious standards and limited targeting
5. Eurostat 2023 report on EU and sustainable development goals
6. Water leakages: S&P research report "Lost Water: Challenges And Opportunities"
7. Daughter Directives to the Water Framework Directive: Amended quality standards for groundwater and for surface waters
8. Revision of the EU Detergents Regulation
9. EU enlargement: 2023 state of play
10. Upholding the Law: update on infringement procedures
11. European Parliament: water-related Parliamentary questions October and November 2023

### 1. Glyphosate: end of the debate (?)

Pesticide to be re-approved by Commission; Member States in the responsible Committee neither established a qualified majority for re-approval nor a qualified majority against re-approval.

NGOs announce they will legally challenge a forthcoming re-authorisation at European Courts.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **2. New research results on prediction of mega-floods**

When floods are predicted only on the basis of local data, there may be unpleasant surprises. A new method makes it possible to significantly improve predictions - using international data from hydrologically similar areas. The new approach has been developed within a major international research project led by Vienna University of Technology. Research results have been published in November 2023.

EWA NEWS presents you an overview of the results as well as links to authors and the full text of the publication in Nature Geoscience 16, pp 982-988 (2023)

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **3. OECD paper on water-related risks in the financial system**

This OECD working paper explores how the financial sector understands the concept of financial materiality as a lever for decision making on water-related climate and nature risks. The paper also looks at how regulatory and supervisory guidance considers water in the context of climate and nature risks, and finally how sustainable finance tools and initiatives can support market participants in gaining an improved understanding of water-related risks.

EWA NEWS provides you they elements of content as well as a link to the full version of the OECD paper.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **4. Court of Auditors Special Report "Soil" - EU efforts for sustainable soil management – Unambitious standards and limited targeting**

The European Court of Auditors has, within its series of Special Reports, published a report on EU efforts for sustainable soil management.

In Europe, 60-70 % of soils are unhealthy, in part due to soil and manure management practices. The common agricultural policy and the Nitrates Directive provide tools to encourage improvements in soil and manure management.

The Court assessed whether the Commission and member states made effective use of these EU tools for managing agricultural soils and manure sustainably. The Court found that these were not used sufficiently and that there remains considerable scope to improve soil health.

The Court recommends that the Commission reviews and reports on the level of ambition of the standards, assesses the results of their implementation, reports on the targeting of common agricultural policy voluntary measures, limits the use of derogations and improves consolidated data at EU level.

EWA NEWS provides you the Executive Summary of the Report as well as links to the full report in all EU languages.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **5. Eurostat 2023 report on EU and sustainable development goals**

Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, has published the 2023 edition of its 7th regular report on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in an EU context.

Sustainable development is firmly anchored in the European Treaties and has been at the heart of European policy for a long time. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015, have given a new impetus to global efforts for achieving sustainable development. The EU is fully committed to playing an active role in helping to maximise progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. This publication is the seventh of Eurostat's regular reports monitoring progress towards the SDGs in an EU context.

EWA NEWS provides you the key findings of the report as well as a link to the full text of the Eurostat report.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)



## **6. Water leakages: S&P research report "Lost Water: Challenges And Opportunities"**

In this research paper, S&P Global Ratings - one of the world's leading rating agencies - looks at water infrastructure challenges through the lens of non-revenue water (NRW), meaning water that a utility sources and treats but for which it receives no financial compensation. NRW, or lost water, deters investment in water infrastructure assets. Reducing it can have many benefits, including increasing universal access to safe water, mitigating water stress, reducing the impacts of freshwater withdrawals on ecosystems, and mitigating global greenhouse gas emissions. Investment decisions made today could significantly affect future NRW rates. Yet, in many cases - particularly emerging markets- access to private-sector funding is limited and regulatory incentives are insufficient.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **7. Daughter Directives to the Water Framework Directive: Amended quality standards for groundwater and for surface waters**

October 2022 saw a legislative Proposal for updating/amending EU quality standards for groundwater and for surface waters (COM(2022) 540 final).

The European Parliament Plenary has on 12 September 2023 its position in 1st reading, and opened the path towards negotiations with the Council to find a so-called "1st reading solution".

EWA NEWS provides you the key elements of the EP Plenary decision as well as a link to the full text of the decision.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **8. Revision of the EU Detergents Regulation**

After almost 20 years, the EU Detergents Regulation is under revision.

EWA NEWS present you key elements of the legislative proposal and of the amendments put forward in the European Parliament.

For indepth reading links to the full text of the legislative proposal, the evaluation, the impact assessment as well as the currently proposed amendments within the European Parliament are available.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **9. EU enlargement: 2023 state of play**

9 November 2023 saw publication of the "2023 Enlargement Package", providing a detailed assessment of the state of play and the progress made by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, and for the first time also Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia on their respective paths towards accession to the European Union. In particular, the report focuses on the progress in the implementation of fundamental reforms, as well as on providing clear guidance on the reform priorities ahead. Accession is and will remain a merit-based process, fully dependent on the objective progress achieved by each country.

EWA News provides you key elements on the individual countries, and links to the full texts of Commission Communication and individual country assessment reports.

[Sign up to read the full article](#)

## **10. Upholding the Law: update on infringement procedures**

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.

October and November 2023 saw a range of infringement procedures, from the Waste Shipments Regulation via the Habitats Directive to the Water Framework Directive and Floods Directive, against the following Member States: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Poland, Portugal and Romania.

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 (lump sum



payments, periodic penalty payments).

Sign up to read the full article

## **11. European Parliament: water-related Parliamentary questions October and November 2023**

14 water-related questions from Parliamentarians, from privatisation of irrigation water supply systems via pollution by waste water and by waste facilities to floods disasters.

EWA News presents you the outline texts of the questions and the coordinates of the MEP who has submitted them, plus links to the full text and (once available) the answers.

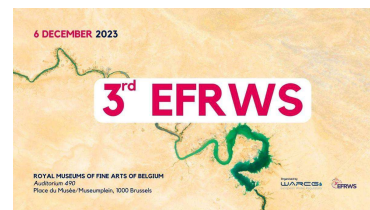
Sign up to read the full article

### **Other Events**

#### **3rd EFRWS**

**6 December 2023 - Brussels**

The 3rd European Forum on the Regulation of Water Services will be focused on the evolving European legislation to achieve EU Green Deal targets. Economic and social implications in the water sector, climate neutrality, and water resilience will be at the centre of discussion with European Water Regulators, EU Institutions and stakeholders. Learn more on the [official website](#).



## **Water infrastructure development – bankable and sustainable WASH solutions**

**14 December 2023 - Kigali**

The Hungarian Water Partnership is organizing a special technical workshop in the framework of IWA Water and Development Congress and Exhibition 2023. The purpose of the workshop is to find answers for the following challenges: if the world's richest regions full scale and inclusive water infrastructure development is unbankable, then how do we expect it to be worldwide? How to develop water awareness and water values and to promote good value choices. The workshop is to identify affordable and sustainable water solutions that can be attractive enough for the private sector as well. You can learn more [here](#).



## **The German Water Sector: Focus on River Basin Management**

**23-25 January 2024 - Hennef**

Participants will understand the basic setup of the German water sector focused on river basin management – its structure, facts and figures, stakeholders, the administrative setup, history and current subjects from the industry. An excursion to a river basin is part of the seminar. The participants will gain practical understanding in group work, show cases and discussions. More information [online](#).



## **18th Annual DWF Water Research Conference**

**30 January 2024 - University of Copenhagen**

Our member the [Danish Water Forum](#) is organizing its annual Water Research Conference.

KEY NOTE: Rethink groundwater management under Climate Change.

The summer of 2023 sent shivers all across Europe due to extreme weather conditions with either prolonged draughts or extreme rain and hail storms. In many places in Europe the conditions hit the water supply and showed a need to find new ways to protect and preserve water primarily for human consumption and secondary for



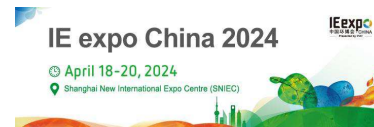
other uses like industry and food production. The plenum session will put focus on a Europe in a transition period in water management.

Learn more on the [official website](#).

## IE expo China 2024

18-20 April 2024, Shanghai

As Asia's leading environmental show, IE expo China offers an effective business and networking platform for Chinese and international professionals in the environmental sector and is accompanied by first-class technical-scientific conference program. It is the ideal platform for professionals in the environmental industry to develop business, exchange idea and network. Don't miss the opportunity to meet the key players and your customers at IE expo China!  
More info [here](#).



## IFAT Brasil

24-26 April 2024, São Paulo

In 2024, the largest environmental technology network in the world expanded its portfolio to add existing initiatives and leverage the environmental technology market in Latin America, with the launch of IFAT Brasil. The IFAT Brasil Congress makes a substantial contribution to technological exchange and professional improvement, emphasizing the importance of the market and business related to environmental technologies in Brazil and around the world. With a comprehensive selection of more than 15 panels during the three days of the fair, the program will be marked by the presence of major players. Read more [here](#).



## IFAT Munich 2024 - Munich

13-17 Mai 2024

**IFAT Munich—The World's Leading Trade Fair for Environmental Technologies** boasts a high international presence and an impressive number of exhibitors and visitors. IFAT Munich is known as an industry platform for presentations and innovation in the water, sewage, waste and raw materials sector. All relevant key-players will present their latest products and services on environmental solutions.



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

## Until we meet again ..

The next EWA Newsletter will be sent out February 2024.

Until then, please visit us at:

- ★ [Facebook](#) (@ewa.online.eu)
- ★ [LinkedIn](#) (European Water Association)
- ★ [X](#) (@water\_ewa)
- ★ [Youtube](#): EWA Online



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

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More Information: <http://www.ewa-online.eu/>

European Water Association (EWA)  
Theodor-Heuss-Allee 17, 53773 Hennef  
Germany  
Tel.: +49 2242 872-189  
Fax: +49 2242 872-135  
» [contact](#)

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