



SUPPORTING
WORKSHOPS DURING
INTERNATIONAL WATER-
RELATED TRADE SHOWS.
FIRST RELEASE

Deliverable D5.4 – September 2024



Co-funded by
the European Union

OUTPUT SUMMARY PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title	European Partnership Water4All – Water security for the planet
Project Acronym	Water4All
Call Identifier	Horizon-CL6-2021-Climate-01-02
Contract Number	101060874
Starting Date	1 June 2022
End Date	31 May 2029
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Deliverable Title	Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows. First release.
Deliverable Number	D5.4
Work Package	WP5 - Pillar E: Internationalisation
WP leader	CNR
Nature	R (Document, Report)
Dissemination	PU (Public)
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Date	30/07/2024 and 25/09/2024

Acknowledgements

Water4All has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon Europe Programme under Grant Agreement 101060874.

This document results from the contribution from a large number of experts in water and research and innovation including Water4All partners. We wish to acknowledge their invaluable contributions and active participation in international events as Water4All Ambassadors. Special thanks to to the European Commission for funding this ambitious programme.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ACRONYMS	4
ABSTRACT	6
Introduction.....	7
Identification of relevant opportunities	8
Participation of Water4All in international events	9
Overview of international events.....	9
Extensive reporting on the main international gatherings	12
UN-Water Summit on Groundwater 2022	12
G-STIC Conference 2023.....	13
United Nations Water Conference 2023	14
International Conference “Is climate change adaptation all about water?”	16
World Water Congress 2023	19
World Conference on Ecological Restoration 2023.....	20
United Nations Environment Assembly 2024.....	20
IFAT Congress 2024	21
World Water Forum 2024	22
EU Green Week 2024	26
Conclusions.....	28
ANNEX 1 – Overview of events and identified opportunities	29

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACRONYM	FULL TITLE
ACE	African Centers of Excellence
B2B	Business To Business
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEWP	China-EU Water Platform
CWP	Catalan Water Partnership
EU	European Union
EWA	European Water Association
DG	Directorate-General
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
G-STIC	Global Sustainable Technology & Innovation Community
GWII	Global Water Intelligence
HLP	High Level Panel
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAH	International Association of Hydrologists
IAHR	International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research
ID	Interactive Dialogue
IEES	International Ecological Engineering Society
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWA	International Water Association
IWRA	International Water Resources Association
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
R&I	Research & Innovation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SER	Society for Ecological Restoration
SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
SIWW+	Singapore International Water Week
SRIA	Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
UN	United Nations
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO-IHP	UNESCO - Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
W4A	Water4All Partnership
Water4All	European Partnership on Water Security for the Planet
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
Water JPI	Water Joint Programming Initiative
WEFE	Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (Nexus)
WoLL	Water-oriented Living Lab
WRE	Water Reuse Europe
WWF	World Water Forum

Water4All partners mentioned in the report:

ABBREVIATION	FULL TITLE
ANR	French National Research Agency (France)
APE	Aqua Publica Europea (EU network)
BRGM	French geological survey (France)
CLEAN	Danish Water and Environmental Cluster (Denmark)
Cluster H2O	Cluster H2O (Belgium)
CNR	National Research Council (Italy)
CREA	CREA Hydro&Energy cluster (Czech Republic)
DMP	Danish Environmental Portal (DMP)
DSI	Department of Science and Innovation (South Africa)
EWA	Energy and Water Agency (Malta)
FORMAS	Swedish Research Council (Sweden)
FWT	France Water Team (France)
GEUS	Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (Denmark)
GSRI	General Secretariat for Research and Innovation (Greece)
ISPRA	Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (Italy)
LNEC	National Laboratory for Civil Engineering (Portugal)
Mechelen	City of Mechelen (Belgium)
PtKA	Project Management Agency Karlsruhe (Germany)
UÉvora	University of Evora (Portugal)
VITO	Flemish Institute for Technological Research (Belgium)
VMM	Flanders Environment Agency (Belgium)
Water Alliance	Water Alliance (Netherlands)
Water Europe	Water Europe – Technology and Innovation network (EU Network)
Wetsus	European centre of excellence for sustainable water technology (Netherlands)
WRC	Water Research Commission (South Africa)

ABSTRACT

This document entitled ‘Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows’ is a **public report** (Deliverable D5.4). It provides details on the activities carried out under **Task E.3** ‘Developing innovative tools for international cooperation’ of **Pillar E** (Internationalisation) of the **Water4All Partnership**.

This report highlights the **presence of Water4All in several international events of relevance within the water sector** and the accomplishments realized during the first period of the Partnership (from June 2022 until May 2024). The first approach was mainly explorative towards **raising visibility around the Partnership** and **identifying the most relevant fora**. Water4All took great efforts in disseminating its activities throughout the entire globe by the active engagement of its partners. Further details are provided on the **main identified events**, as well as on the **screening process for identification of relevant opportunities**, and the setup process of the **participation of the Partnership** in said events.

About Water4All

Water4All is a Research & Innovation (R&I) Partnership co-funded within Horizon Europe. It aims at enabling water security for all on the long-term by boosting systemic transformations and changes across the water R&I pipeline, fostering the matchmaking between problem owners and solution providers. In addition to the launch of calls for R&I proposals, Water4All offers a portfolio of additional activities, including the alignment of water programmes, the wide transfer and dissemination of activities and results, networking, capacity building, demonstration projects, and international cooperation.

The Partnership provides relevant outcomes for a better understanding of water processes in a number of scientific fields, and supports European and international policy-oriented initiatives, notably the European Green Deal and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). At the date of publication of this document, the consortium counts over 90 partners from +30 countries, stemming from national research funding agencies, public authorities including local authorities, research performing organisations, water associations and networks at European, national, or regional levels. Partners have decided to join forces to address the big challenge of securing water for all. The project is structured around five operational pillars looking at strategic issues (Pillar A), development of knowledge through calls for proposals (Pillar B), science – policy – end-users’ interface (Pillar C), demonstration (Pillar D) and international cooperation (Pillar E).

SUPPORTING WORKSHOPS DURING INTERNATIONAL WATER-RELATED TRADE SHOWS

First release

Introduction

According to the Water4All work programme, **Pillar E (Internationalisation)** aims at achieving a **stronger cooperation on water related R&I initiatives at international level**, exploring three different perspectives and linking with three different tasks: involving the largest number of governments and international organizations or initiatives (Task E.1); supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with the obvious emphasis on SDG6 Clean water and sanitation, and related others such as SDG17 Partnerships, contributing also to the monitoring of such real implementations worldwide (Task E.2); and supporting the development of new approaches in international cooperation in the R&I and B2B sectors (Task E.3).

Water4All represents a long-term commitment and engagement of the European Union and partners worldwide to promote research and innovation through several consecutive years, starting in 2022 until 2028. The first period of activities (2022-2024) consisted of the **startup phase of the Partnership**, where the collaboration was being developed and strengthened. As such, an **explorative approach** was taken during this learning stage, and some lessons learned can now be fed to continue and improve the work done in Internationalisation for the second period of implementation of Water4All activities (2024-2026).

Great efforts were put into giving more visibility to the Partnership and establishing contacts within the international water network. To carry out these activities, a **'Task Force Events'** was created to harmonize the dissemination of Water4All in international events and the participation in roadshows, by identifying relevant fora and by providing support to the Water4All partners' participation. This report is, therefore, linked to the work of this task force, and builds upon the information provided under an internal study carried out by Water4All partners and consisting in the 'Analysis of important international scientific/business gatherings in which to present Water4All' (internal Milestone 72).

Identification of relevant opportunities

The Task Force Events is holding **regular 30-minutes meetings on the first Friday of each month since June 2023**. These meetings are led by VITO, co-lead partner of Water4All Pillar E. During these meetings, all partners are invited to go through a list of pre-identified relevant events and gatherings, giving their inputs on potential involvement of Water4All, and need for further support from the Partnership, if necessary. As evidence, find the **Excel spreadsheet (Annex 1)** which includes the overview of all gathered leads up to the current date.

The pre-identification of events and gatherings is done through an online search of numerous publications, considering **relevant networks and platforms in the water R&I landscape**, such as the International Water Association (IWA), Water Europe, Aqua Publica Europea (APE), Water Reuse Europe, International Water Resources Association (IWRA), UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (UNESCO-IHP), European Commission, UN-Water, UN Environment Programme (UNEP), among others. Other leads can also be provided by each one of the partners for gatherings at national and regional level, in case these are directly linked to activities fostered under Water4All.

The identification of relevant opportunities is commonly done in consultation with **Pillar E leader (CNR), co-leader (VITO), former co-leader (GSRI), as well as with the Partnership Coordination Team led by ANR**. The decision on participation and attendance of Water4All is based on the expected outcomes of the event, target audience, timing, location, and added value brought to the Partnership. The extensive overview of identified opportunities and important gatherings with participation of Water4All can be found in **Annex 1 (Table 2)**.

Participation of Water4All in international events

Overview of international events

For the selected roadshows, the Partnership commits itself to attend and participate with a relevant role for networking and outreach, aiming at presenting and promoting its work and core values. A selection of some of the events in which Water4All was present is shown in **Table 1**, including a short summary of executed activities and involved partners, as well as its geographical distribution as illustrated in **Figure 1**. A detailed description of the most relevant fora is provided below in this document. Other reports of attendance to international events and business gatherings are also publicly available in the Partnership’s website at: <https://www.water4all-partnership.eu/news>.

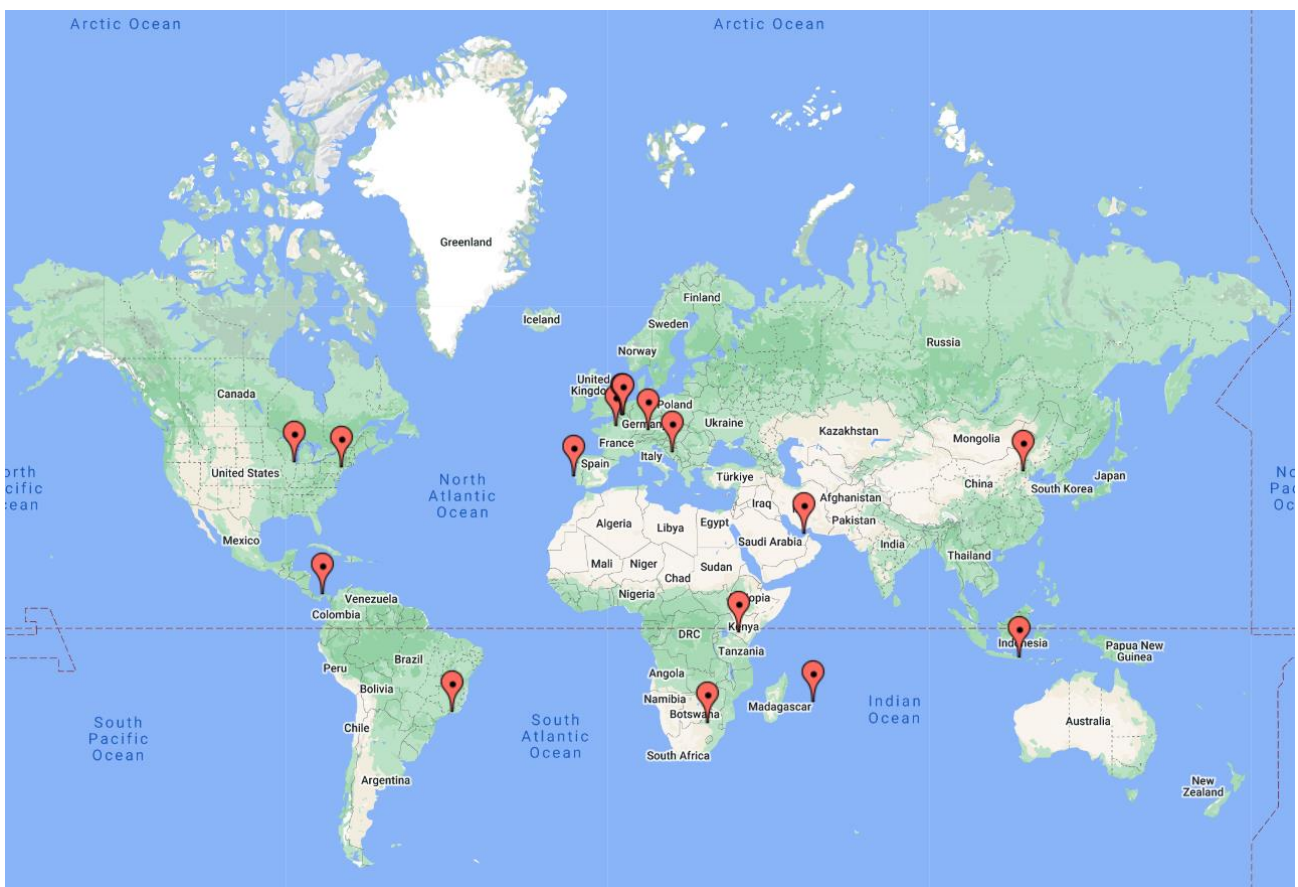


Figure 1. Geographical distribution of the main international meetings and events (as described in Table 1) in which Water4All was present.

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

Table 1. Summary of some of the main international events in which Water4All was present during 2022-2024: name of the event, date and location in which it took place, and short description of activities and involved partners.

Event	Date	Location	Activities
UN-Water Summit on Groundwater 2022	7-8 Dec 2022	Paris, France	Water4All took part in this event and in a side-event discussing “how research and innovation can contribute to solving groundwater challenges and accelerate transitions”.
G-STIC Conference 2023	13-15 Feb 2023	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	The Partnership was presented in the plenary session “Human right to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) – Barriers and solutions”, highlighting the importance of SDG6 in the Sustainable Development Agenda.
UN Water Conference 2023	22-24 Mar 2023	New York, USA	Water4All contributed to the Interactive Dialogues 4 (Water for Cooperation: transboundary & international cooperation) and 5 (Water Action Decade: Accelerating the implementation of the objectives), and organized/participated in the following side-events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Collaborative Innovation: the key toward a Water Smart Society” led by VITO and Water Europe, Belgium. 2. “Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration in freshwater ecosystems: insights from law, practice and research around the world” led by the University of Évora, Portugal. 3. “Transdisciplinary Ecohydrology for the acceleration of SDGs – methodology of science & patterns of implementation” led by the Ministry of Industry, Poland. 4. “Inclusive Science for Water Security” led by the Ministry of Infrastructure, Chile.
International conference "Is climate change adaptation all about water?"	25-26 Apr 2023	Brussels, Belgium	As an outcome of the UN Water Conference, Water4All was present in this conference, illustrating the concept of Water-Oriented Living Labs with a testimony of the City of Mechelen.
Sustainable Research & Innovation Congress	26-30 Jun 2023	Panamá City, Panamá	In cooperation with the Water JPI, Water4All planned to organise an interactive dialogue to promote networking and present the initiatives to international players in the Caribbean Region and South America. The event was cancelled due to logistical issues but Water4All attended the SRI Congress to explore opportunities of collaborations.
IWRA XVIII World Water Congress	11-15 Sep 2023	Beijing, China	Water4All was present to explore further opportunities on collaboration with China following the Water Restoration Commitment. The presentation of the Partnership was made in two different sessions by UÉvora, Portugal.
World Conference on Ecological Restoration	26-30 Sep 2023	Darwin, Australia	Water4All was present to explore further collaboration opportunities and identify experts following the Water Restoration Commitment. The Partnership was presented in one session coordinated by UÉvora, Portugal.
Policy Dialogue on Aligning Priorities in the Western Balkans	13 Sep 2023	Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina	Water4All was present to explore further opportunities on collaboration with the Balkans. The presentation of the Partnership was foreseen by the CEO Ariane Blum, to meet and exchange with the representatives of relevant ministries and funding organisations.

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

Table 1 (cont.). Summary of some of the main international events in which Water4All was present during 2022-2024: name of the event, date and location in which it took place, and short description of activities and involved partners.

Event	Date	Location	Activities
WEFTEC 2023	30 Sep - 4 Oct 2023	Chicago, USA	Water-Alliance and France Water Team organized a session with exchanges on B2B, as well as a network events for cluster organizations.
COP28	30 Nov - 12 Dec 2023	Dubai, UAE	Water Europe participated in the Water4Climate pavilion, promoting the concept of water-smart society and linking to the Water-oriented Living Labs.
UNEA-6	19-21 Feb 2024	Nairobi, Kenya	ISPRA and UÉvora attended the event. ISPRA presented Water4All during the side-event on water security and water resilience organized by EC, UNEP, and Water Europe. Possibilities for cooperation with African countries (Kenya, Ethiopia) and UNEP have been explored.
World Water Day – Lisbon Living Lab B-Water Smart event	22 Mar 2024	Lisbon, Portugal	LNEC, Water Europe and ANR presented Water4All and disseminated the activities taken under Pillar D in Lisbon as one of the identified Water-oriented Living Labs.
ACE International Partnerships Workshop	8-10 May 2024	Mauritius	VITO, UÉvora and Wetsus partners were present in the meeting of the World Bank with the African Centers of Excellence (ACE) to explore further opportunities on Africa-EU collaboration.
IFAT Congress 2024	13-17 May 2024	Munich, Germany	Several Water4All partners (ANR, H2O Cluster, Water Alliance, Wetsus, ...) attended and organized several sessions where Water4All was presented.
Indalo symposium	14-15 May 2024	Pretoria, South Africa	In collaboration with UNIDO, VITO, CSIR and WRC were present at the South African congress, presenting Water4All activities and exploring further collaboration options.
10 th World Water Forum	20-25 May 2024	Bali, Indonesia	A large Water4All delegation was present (CNR, ANR, VITO, LNEC, ISPRA, UÉvora, ...). Water4All had a pavilion in the exhibition fair which was co-hosted by the EU Commission. Water4All also contributed to Topic 6 (Knowledge & Innovation) of the Forum, organizing several thematic sessions and side-meetings.
EU Green Week 2024	29-30 May 2024	Brussels, Belgium	Together with the launch of the WaterWiseEU campaign of the EU Commission, Water4All was presented by ANR and Wetsus.

Extensive reporting on the main international gatherings

UN-Water Summit on Groundwater 2022

The **UN-Water Summit on Groundwater** took place on **7-8 December 2022** in **Paris, France**, and it was the **first official public appearance of the Partnership** as with the current Governing and Executive Boards. The Groundwater Summit 2022 was a preparatory event of the United Nations Water Conference 2023 held in New York. As such, it was a very relevant event for Water4All to be present, in order to later increase its visibility. The Water4All CEO, Ariane Blum, was present and a small contribution was provided on which opportunities the Partnership had to offer, also strengthening the collaboration with the French partners ANR and BRGM, working in the field of groundwater.



Figure 2. Presence of Water4All at the UN-Water Summit on Groundwater 2022.

Water4All took part in a side-event discussing about “how research and innovation can contribute to solving groundwater challenges and accelerate transitions”, which counted with around 120 participants. The main addressed key messages were:

- **Research and innovation are key for accelerating and reaching the SDGs.** Encouraging investments in research and innovation (e.g., climate adaptation based on nature-based solutions & grey infrastructure) and digital data access (e.g., near real-time monitoring and modelling results) will support solutions, development, and implementation.
- **Water-related public policies should be designed based on knowledge** to support innovations, as well as create and build the capacities of all categories of stakeholders, for more sustainable management of the environment, including water resources.

The key messages are very well-aligned with the aims and objectives of Water4All, so the event had an overall positive outcome as a first public attendance.

G-STIC Conference 2023

G-STIC is the Global Sustainable Technology & Innovation Community, hosted jointly by VITO (the research and technology organization on cleantech and sustainable development in Belgium – co-lead of Pillar E) and other not-for-profit independent technology research institutes: CSIR (The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in South Africa), FIOCRUZ (Fundação Oswaldo Cruz in Brazil), GIEC (Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion in China), JITRI (Jiangsu Industrial Technology Research Institute in China), MASEN (Moroccan Agency for Sustainable Energy), NACETEM (National Centre for Technology Management in Nigeria), STEPI (Science and Technology Policy Institute in South Korea), TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute in India) and TII (Technology Innovation Institute in United Arab Emirates). G-STIC is a network committed to forwarding market-ready technological solutions for accelerating the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 with breakthrough technological transformations. Every year a high-level conference is held to bring together international researchers, government representatives, organisations, and business leaders in the field of sustainable development and innovation.

The **G-STIC Conference** took place on **13-15 February 2023** in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**. The conference accounted with a very diverse audience, including on-site participants and online attendees from all around the globe, with 4,200 participants from 140 countries. Water was high on the agenda, including four sessions:

1. Plenary Session: ‘Human right to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) – Barriers and solutions’
2. Special Session: ‘Water-Energy-Food Nexus – The one way towards sustainable development’
3. Deep Dive Session: ‘Sustainable WASH in peri-urban and rural areas’
4. Deep Dive Session: ‘Risks to health from pollutants, pathogens, and emerging contaminants in water’

Water4All was presented in the plenary session as an **enabler for enhancing collaboration within the international water stakeholders**. Antonio Lo Porto (CNR, lead of Pillar E) and Katrien Van Hooydonk (VITO, co-lead of Pillar E) highlighted how internationalisation in Research & Innovation within the Water4All Partnership can help achieving SDG 6 (water and sanitation for all), as well as SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals). The main keynote remarks from the water sessions were:

- Technology and Innovation are key in assuring the human right to WASH: innovation does not need to be purely technological; it can also be innovation in terms of management, e.g., community-based management.
- Digital services can provide a large step forward in the provision of basic services in WASH in marginalised and vulnerable communities.
- G-STIC Rio as a steppingstone towards the UN Water Conference in March 2023.

Water4All’s R&I themes and the **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)** were presented, as well as the **launch of the first Joint Transnational Call** (launched in 2022) on “Management of water resources: resilience, adaptation and mitigation to hydroclimatic extreme events and management tools”. The activities and tasks undertaken in Pillar E were also highlighted in more detail, together with a final invitation to cooperate with Water4All and look for potential partners interesting in joining in the Partnership. The main outcome of this roadshow was to have Water4All present in a **key international forum outside of Europe**, extending its engagement to become a global partnership.



Figure 3. Katrien Van Hooydonk (3rd from the left) and Antonio Lo Porto (2nd from the right) on stage during the Plenary Session of the G-STIC Conference 2023.

United Nations Water Conference 2023

The **United Nations Water Conference** took place on **22-24 March 2023** in **New York, USA**. Almost 50 years had passed since the last UN Conference on water in 1977, formally known as the 2023 Conference for the Midterm Comprehensive Review of Implementation of the UN Decade for Action on Water and Sanitation (2018-2028). Therefore, this was an essential gathering for all actors working on water-related themes, with **unprecedented importance for Water4All**. Around 8,000 people were present.

The conference was organized around five Interactive Dialogues (ID) based on different themes:

1. **Water for Health:** Access to WASH, including the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation
2. **Water for Sustainable Development:** Valuing Water, Water-Energy-Food Nexus, and Sustainable Economic and Urban Development
3. **Water for Climate, Resilience, and Environment:** Source to Sea, Biodiversity, Climate, Resilience, and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
4. **Water for Cooperation:** Transboundary and International Water Cooperation, Cross Sectoral Cooperation, including Scientific Cooperation, and Water Across the 2030 Agenda
5. **Water Action Decade:** Accelerating the Implementation of the Objectives of the Decade, including through the UN Secretary-General's Action Plan

Water4All particularly contributed to ID 4 on **water for cooperation**, focusing on **transboundary and international cooperation**, as well as ID 5 on **accelerating the objectives of the Water action Decade**. By gathering a variety of actors from different countries, Water4All supports a common vision for the research needs in the water sector at the European level, through its SRIA, closely linked with citizens, policymakers, and economic actors' expectations. Concentrating different funding agencies from Europe and beyond, Water4All can also help to accelerate R&I, support international cooperation, and facilitate knowledge sharing.

Water4All Internationalisation partners have also organized several side-events to contribute to the conference's programme, and Ariane Blum (Water4All CEO), Antonio Lo Porto (CNR, Pillar E leader) and Panagiotis Balabanis (European Commission, DG RTD) have presented the Partnership and its contribution to the related themes:

- ['Collaborative Innovation: the key towards a Water Smart Society'](#) led by VITO and Water Europe, Belgium
- ['The Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration in freshwater ecosystems: insights from law, practice and research around the world'](#) led by the UÉvora, Portugal
- ['Transdisciplinary Ecohydrology for the acceleration of SDGs – methodology of science & patterns of implementation'](#) led by the Ministry of Industry, Poland
- ['Inclusive Science for Water Security'](#) led by the Ministry of Infrastructure, Chile

The main message of the conference was that a 'water conference' is about much more than water: **water is a common denominator in several sectors**, such as industry, energy, and agriculture, so we need to work in a transdisciplinary way across silos. The importance of **water as a central domain to accelerate the remaining SDGs** emphasized the need for meaningful stakeholder engagement, water governance, and cooperation across sectors and borders. Finally, the **growing momentum over water action** was very noticeable, with +700 official commitments submitted by Member States and stakeholder organisations to the **UN Water Action Agenda**, one of the main deliverables of this forum.

This conference was also a unique moment to focus on the benefits of scientific research to better manage the current water challenges that are expected to increase further in the future. Water4All's supporting key messages from the four side-events were:

- Need to increase the level of existing **knowledge and innovation uptake by policymakers**, local governments, operators, and economical actors.
- Encourage **open science and data** as a driver of innovative solutions and of water actors' engagement (both public and private, as well as through citizens).
- Better **involve and support young** researchers, entrepreneurs, and citizens in the water action.
- Joint efforts for **innovative funding and financing schemes** for the development of solutions.
- Importance and relevance of Nature-based Solutions and Ecohydrology to support the Water Action Agenda.

The main outcome of this event was, once again, to have Water4All present in a **key international forum outside of Europe**, strengthening its collaboration with worldwide renowned organisations such as the ones under the United Nations umbrella.



Figure 4. Delegation of some of the Water4All partners (left) and participation of Water4All CEO, Ariane Blum (ANR) in one of the side-events (right).



Figure 5. Overview of the hybrid session on “The Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration in freshwater ecosystems: insights from law, practice and research around the world” (left), and signature of the Water Restoration Commitment between University of Évora, Society for Ecological Restoration, Water4All and youth representative (right).

International Conference “Is climate change adaptation all about water?”

The international conference “Is climate change adaptation all about water?” took place on **25-26 April 2023** in **Brussels, Belgium**. It was organised by **Enabel**, the Belgian Development Agency, in collaboration with Water4All, VITO, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, and Brussels Environment. This conference was one of the official commitments submitted to the UN Water Action Agenda as an outcome of the UN Water Conference 2023.

The “Is climate change adaptation all about water?” conference comprised 2 days of rich and fruitful debates between 19 speakers from international organisations, research institutes, local authorities, development agencies, NGOs and the private sector, featuring 24 presentations of technology providers and methodologies, counting with around 200 participants from 15 countries and 3 different continents.

The sessions revolved around two main themes:

1. **Water as central element of Urban Resilience and Nature-based Solutions**
2. Water as a driver of the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) nexus

Water4All made a particular contribution for theme 1, with focus on the **development and conceptualization of the Water-oriented Living Labs (WoLLs)** as part of **Water Europe's** activities in Pillar D. This session also featured a presentation of the **City of Mechelen**, as a Water4All partner in both Pillar D (related to demonstration projects) and Pillar C (related with citizen engagement). Mechelen was also, at the time, a potential candidate to be elected as an official WoLL, counting with several projects illustrating the use of Nature-based Solutions to help cities adapt to climate change.



Figure 6. Presentation of the concept of WoLLs by Durk Krol, Water Europe (on the left), featuring a spotlight on the projects in the City of Mechelen, by Arnout Ruelens, City of Mechelen (on the right).

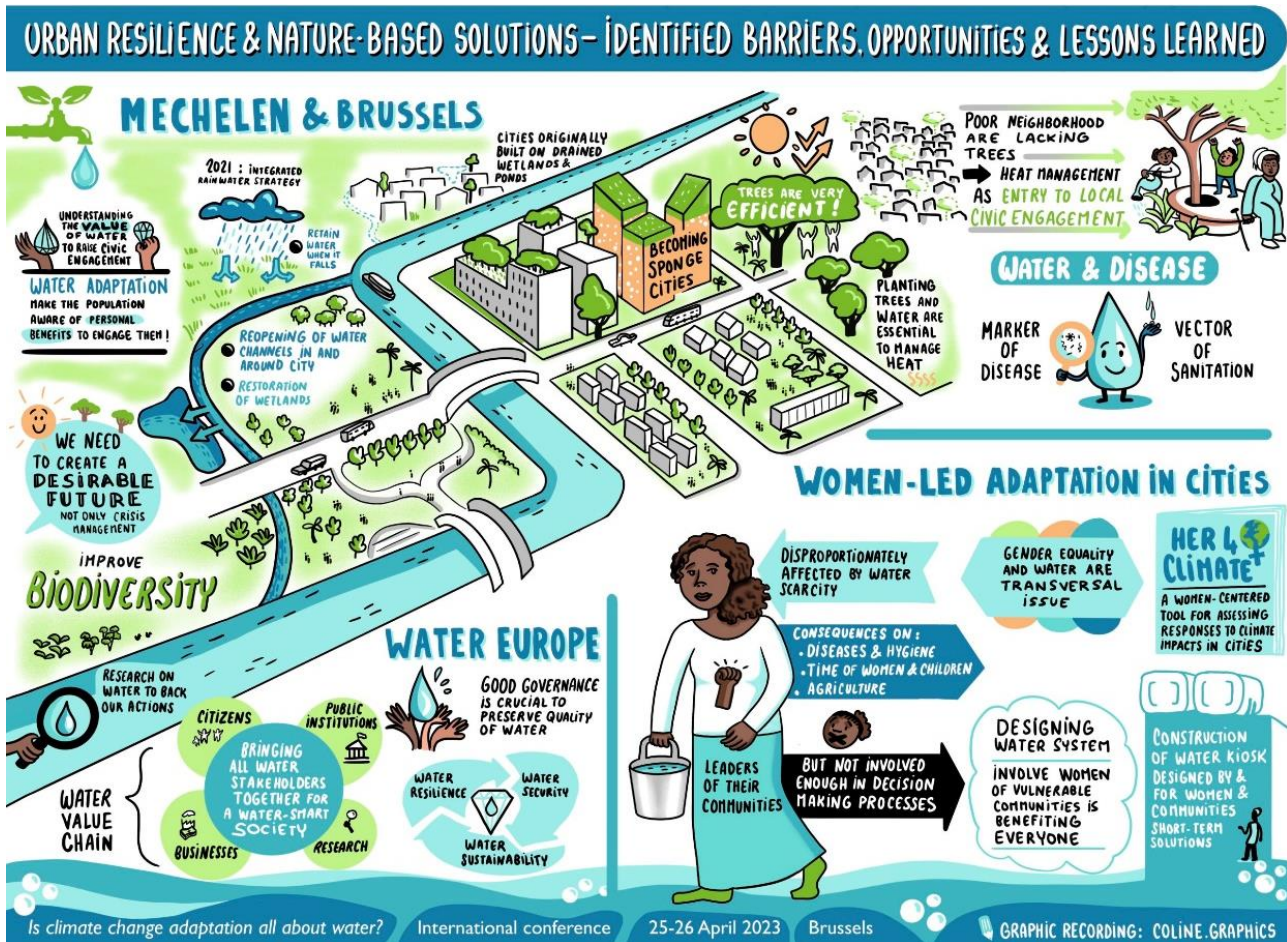


Figure 7. Graphical summary of the session entitled ‘Urban Resilience & Nature-based Solutions – identified barriers, opportunities & lessons learnt’, in which the Water4All partners have made their contributions (City of Mechelen, Water Europe).

The main takeaways from the international conference were:

- **Global perspective on water issues:** Water is no longer just a local problem but a global one. The conference emphasized that effective water policy requires overcoming numerous obstacles and highlighted the importance of nature-based solutions for building climate resilience. Engaging society in the policy process is crucial for the adoption and success of these solutions.
- **WEFE Nexus:** The conference underscored the importance of understanding the interactions between water, energy, food, and ecosystems. This approach helps in identifying synergies and trade-offs. There was a call for better consultation among stakeholders to bridge the gap between funders, policymakers, and end-users.
- **Collaborative governance:** Effective governance was identified as essential to maintain solutions beyond their implementation and funding. Emphasis was placed on the need for collaborative governance approaches to ensure that all stakeholders are involved in decision-making processes.

The main outcome of this event for Water4All was an **increased visibility of the Partnership’s activities under Pillar D**, as well as promotion of the concept of Water-oriented Living Labs. **Interaction with international stakeholders** was also promoted, since several high-level representatives were present, making it a great opportunity to build further on the networking efforts.

World Water Congress 2023

The **XVIII World Water Congress** took place on **11-15 September 2023** in **Beijing, China**. Under the theme **‘Water for All: Harmony between Humans and Nature’**, the congress was organised by the International Water Resources Association (IWRA) and the Ministry of Water Resources of the People’s Republic of China (MWR), counting with approximately 3,000 registered participants from over 30 countries.

The congress covered several topics which are fully in line with the Water4all strategic agenda:

- Water – Human – Economy (Agriculture, Industry, City, ...) – Ecology nexus under a changing environment
- Promoting water efficiency, productivity, and services
- Building resilience for disaster, prevention, and mitigation
- Supporting Aquatic Ecosystem, health, and functions
- Establishing sustainable water infrastructures
- Innovation for water governance and management

Water4All was particularly involved in a special session on “Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration in freshwater ecosystems: insights from law, practice, and research around the world” led by the **University of Évora**, Tonji University, and the Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research of China. The session addressed a series of knowledge and state-of-the-art presentations from different regions followed by a discussion based on the identification of needs, solutions, and proposals for future work on implementing ecological restoration efforts and examining practical means to incorporate the restorative continuum in actual policy priorities to achieve water-related SDGs. The event focused on building further on the **Water Restoration Commitment submitted to the UN Water Action Agenda as an outcome of the UN Water Conference 2023**.

Once more, the main outcome of this event was having Water4All present in a **key international forum outside of Europe**, strengthening its **collaboration with China** and potentially building further on the efforts of the **China-EU Water Platform (CEWP)**.



Figure 8. Presentation of Water4All at the XVIII World Water Congress by Bjørn Karre Jensen, Water4All Chair.

World Conference on Ecological Restoration 2023

The **10th World Conference on Ecological Restoration** took place on **26-30 September 2023** in **Darwin, Australia**. The conference aimed at focusing on the important, and often neglected, connection between culture and nature, including the role of restoration in enhancing and rebuilding that connection. Organised by the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) under the theme of **‘Nature and people as one: celebrating restoration and connection’**, the conference brought together over 1,000 people from 80 countries to discuss the global ecological restoration agenda.

Water4All was involved through the participation of UÉvora, Portugal, which presented the Partnership and the **Water Restoration Commitment** in a session dedicated to the UN Decade and scaling up restoration. This conference was, thus, the perfect stage to identify relevant partners to join the Restoration Commitment throughout the international network. Following the conference, a group of experts was formally setup, under the lead of Emille Bulot from Tasmania University, to follow up on the Water Restoration Commitment.

As such, the main outcome of this conference was having Water4All present in a **key international forum outside of Europe**, strengthening its visibility and extending the network in the context of the Water Restoration Commitment as an outcome of the UN Water Conference 2023.



Figure 9. Charing of the session on ‘UN Decade and scaling up restoration’ (left), and presentation of Water4All contribution in the Water Restoration Commitment by Ana Mendes, UÉvora, Portugal (right) at the 10th World Conference on Ecological Restoration World Congress.

United Nations Environment Assembly 2024

The **sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)** took place from **26 February to 1 March 2024** at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) headquarters in **Nairobi, Kenya**. The session focused on how multilateralism can help **tackle the triple planetary crisis** of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, as well as pollution and waste. Backed by strong science, political resolve and engagement with society, the Assembly was an opportunity for world governments, civil society groups, the scientific community, and the private sector to shape global environmental policy. As the world’s top decision-making body on the environment, UNEA aimed to help restore harmony between humanity and nature, and improving the lives of the world’s most vulnerable people.

UNEA-6 concluded with the **adoption of 15 resolutions** to advance **collaborative action** on the triple planetary crisis. One of the resolutions was targeted to **restoration** – [UNEP/EA.6/Res.14](#), focused on strengthening

international efforts to combat desertification and land degradation, restore degraded land, promote land conservation and sustainable land management, contribute to land degradation neutrality, and enhance drought resilience. Another important resolution was made related to **water** – [UNEP/EA.6/Res.13](#), focused on effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

The participation of Water4All was facilitated by **ISPRA**, which presented the Partnership in the session entitled ‘Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution’, and **UÉvora** in order to network with partner initiatives to join and promote the Water Restoration Commitment.



Figure 10. Overview of the session ‘Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution’ where ISPRA presented Water4All (left), and detail of the room of the closing general assembly (right).

This event seems to be one of the most appropriate arenas to deploy policy recommendations, with Water4All’s presence having high importance in pushing water topics to be higher in the political agendas. Once more, the main outcome of this event was giving Water4All visibility in a **key international forum outside of Europe**, strengthening the Partnership’s work at the level of the science-policy-society interface, as well as increasing the network with international partners and UN-related organizations such as UNEP, which have a big impact in research & development worldwide.

IFAT Congress 2024

The **IFAT Congress** took place on **13-17 May 2024** in **Munich, Germany**. IFAT is the International Trade Fair for Sewage Technology to Global Network for Environmental Technologies. It is the world’s leading trade fair to be in direct contact with industrial stakeholders from the water sector, have an overview of industrial needs and opportunities, as well as create collaborations and networking. It counted with 3,211 exhibitors and around 142,000 visitors from nearly 170 countries and regions.

The main takeaways were:

- **Industry innovation leadership:** Technology advances are still the main driving force for the transformation towards a more climate resilient industry and circular economy. The environmental technology sector is undoubtedly one of the most innovative industries at the moment, and this was clearly demonstrated at IFAT.

- **Challenges for circular economy:** Circular economy plays a key role in adaptation to climate change, since it can help to effectively reduce the (primary) raw materials that need to be used. IFAT is a great platform to address the several challenges around circular economy since it gathers several stakeholders, from customers to partners and solution providers, combining the relevant topics and issues of the water and recycling industries.
- **Urgency of climate adaptation at global level:** When it comes to dealing with climate change, all types of stakeholders rely on effective technological solutions, e.g., wastewater treatment plant operators, sewage treatment plant operators, planners, engineering offices, representatives from local authorities and industry. With a very global and diverse presence at the fair, it was clear that several sectors coming together plays a special role on the path to climate resilience.

Water4All organized a side session focusing on the **engagement with the B2B sector** through the partner **cluster organisations:** Water Alliance (Netherlands), Clean (Denmark), Aquanova (France), and Cluster H2O (Belgium). This session focused on the presentation of the Partnership by the Water4All CEO, Ariane Blum (ANR), and its added value for **accelerating the uptake of R&I results** by the economic sectors, including e.g. the thematic strategy of Water4All and the implementation of communication and dissemination tools.

The main outcome of the presence of Water4all was to be once more visible in a **key international forum**, **promote research needs** and **disseminate the partnership activities** to mitigate the water challenges, besides enhancing networking opportunities and strengthening the internal collaborations between the cluster organisations.



Figure 11. Ariane Blum presenting Water4All (left), and Water4All delegation (right) at IFAT Munich 2024.

World Water Forum 2024

The World Water Forum (WWF) punctuates the international calendar every three years as one of the largest gatherings of water-related multi-stakeholders. The **10th World Water Forum** took place on **20-25 May 2024** in **Bali, Indonesia**, counting with 20.000 delegates from 160 different countries, 254 exhibition fairs, and 64.000 participants.

The Forum included a multitude of sessions and discussions on topics around the theme of **‘Water for Shared Prosperity’**, one-in-sync with Water4All’s motto ‘Water security for the Planet’. The main takeaways were:

- **Urgent need for Smart Water Management:** Smart water management is essential to address the water crisis and is no longer a luxury. While advanced technologies are readily available, their

implementation still faces significant hurdles, such as establishing robust infrastructure, fostering collaboration and data sharing, overcoming resistance, and improving the accuracy of predictive models (especially in regions with variable weather conditions like Indonesia).

- **Inclusive and participatory approaches:** A strong emphasis on inclusive governance and participatory approaches involves engaging also local communities, women, youth, and indigenous groups in decision-making processes. Ensuring these groups are empowered and their knowledge and needs are integrated into water management strategies is critical for sustainable and equitable water solutions.
- **Holistic and multi-sectoral approaches:** Effective water management requires a holistic approach that integrates multiple sectors and systems, e.g., as the Water-Energy-Food-Ecology nexus. This approach helps in understanding and managing trade-offs and synergies between sectors, fostering cross-sectoral dialogue.
- **Importance of human, economic and policy factors:** Successful water management requires balancing technological advancements with human values, as well as broader economic policies and frameworks. This includes addressing social inequalities through dynamic water pricing, and ensuring that cultural and local context is considered. Additionally, bridging the financing gap and promoting investments that lead to tangible benefits for communities are key to fostering long-term sustainable water management practices.

For the main programme, Water4All organized two Thematic Sessions and one High-Level Panel under **Topic 6 ‘Knowledge & Innovation’** coordinated by UNESCO:

- The Thematic Session **T6D2 ‘Boosting data sharing and governance’** and the High-Level Panel **HLP20 ‘Water information systems’**, facilitated by Henrik Dissing (DMP, Denmark), reflected on the importance of sharing data and the need for a data management strategy as a lever for research to deliver relevant outputs for end-users in the water sector.
- The Thematic Session **T6A3 ‘Methods and tools for measuring and improving Smart Water Management Capabilities’**, facilitated by Katrien Van Hooydonk (VITO, Belgium), highlighted the advances in the field and the urgency to include a holistic perspective reflecting on economic, policy and human factors. A big focus was put on inclusive and participatory approaches, with the involvement of local voices, by inviting a local Balinese farmer on stage.



Figure 12. Overview of the Thematic Session T6D2 ‘Boosting data sharing and governance’ of the WWF Bali 2024, moderated by Henrik Dissing (DMP, Denmark).



Figure 13. Overview of the High-Level Panel HLP20 ‘Water information systems’ of the WWF Bali 2024, moderated by Henrik Dissing (DMP, Denmark) with the participation of high-level representatives.



Figure 14. Overview of the Thematic Session T6A3 ‘Methods and tools for measuring and improving Smart Water Management Capabilities’ of the WWF Bali 2024, moderated by Katrien Van Hooydonk (VITO, Belgium) and Helena Alegre (LNEC, Portugal).

Moreover, **Water4All hosted a pavilion at the exhibition fair jointly with the European Commission.** This was a place for all partners to meet, network, exchange ideas and enhance further collaboration. The pavilion also counted with its own agenda and several side-events throughout the entire week:

- Launch of the [Water4All Partnership presentation video](#).
- EU project SD-WISHEES workshop on the linkage between extreme water events and the effects on our cultural heritage, including the importance of indigenous and ancestral knowledge for climate adaptation.
- Human Right 2 Water workshop on water policies to support investments in humans and in nature, led by Amanda Loeffen (Human Right 2 Water), vice-Chair of Water4All Stakeholders Advisory Group.

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

- Presentation of the Water4All Partnership with the participation of the Water4All CEO (Ariane Blum, ANR) and Water4All Chair (Bjørn Karre Jensen), together with Henriette Faergemann, Counsellor of the Delegation of the European Union to Indonesia.
- Presentation of Water4All's Strategic & Research Agenda (Pillar A), as well as the Data Sharing Strategy (Pillar C), and the International Strategy (Pillar E).
- Launching of the Water-Oriented Living Labs Atlas (Pillar D) facilitated by Water Europe, and with the participation of two of the selected WoLLs: Lisbon Water Smart Living Lab (Helena Alegre, LNEC) and WaterClimateHub (Inge Genné, VITO).
- Signature of the MoU agreement between CNR and INRH, the Cuban Hydraulic Resources Institute, enabling Cuba the possibility to join the Partnership as observing partner.
- Lake Tanganyika Dynamics session in collaboration with DG Intpa, Joint Research Center, Enabel and VITO, as an example of transboundary cooperation, counting with the presence of the local administrative body from Africa, the Lake Tanganyika Authority.



Figure 15. Group picture of some of the partners in the Water4All delegation present at the WWF Bali 2024: from left to right at the top – Catarina Baptista (VITO), Katrien Van Hooydonk (VITO), Inge Genné (VITO), Antonio Lo Porto (CNR), Helena Alegre (LNEC), Ariane Blum (ANR), Bjørn Karre Jensen (Water4All Chair), Thomas Van Waeyenberge (Aquafed), Maria Concetta Tomei (CNR), Amanda Loeffen (Human Right 2 Water) Jessica Amadio (CNR); from left to right at the bottom – Henrik Dissing (DMP), Sabrina Farris (ISPRA), Carla Pinto Cruz (UÉvora), Alessandra Casali (ISPRA).

Once again, the World Water Forum proved to be a relevant stage for Water4All, with the main outcome being the increased **visibility and engagement in key international fora outside of Europe**. The next edition 'Action for a Better Future' is estimated to take place in 2027 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

EU Green Week 2024

The **EU Green Week** is an **annual campaign** dedicated to raise awareness, promote, and discuss European environmental policy. Organised by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment, this high-level event attracts policymakers, leading environmentalists, stakeholders, and interested parties from across Europe and the globe. It is possible to submit **EU Green Week Partner Events**, and this year's topic was **water resilience**, with special focus on **citizen engagement**. Partner events can be organised by schools, universities, business associations, environmental organisations, civil society, and government agencies, and will take place between **29 May and 1 September 2024 across Europe and beyond**. These events aim to raise awareness and educate citizens about the importance of protecting the environment and promoting sustainable living practices.

Water4All hosted a **partner event** entitled '**Water4All boosting EU Water Resilience**' on **30 May 2024 in Brussels, Belgium**. This event was facilitated by Wetsus and gathered several partners together with some high-level EU representatives from DG RTD and DG Env. Besides an introduction of the Partnership given by the Water4All CEO, Ariane Blum, the session was focused on four main topics:

1. **Water resilient smart cities:** This session reflected on how cities can become crucial pieces in the transition towards circular economies, by acting as living labs, engaging their citizens, increasing social acceptance, and achieving behavioural changes. A presentation featuring the selected WoLL in the WaterCampus Leeuwarden was given as an example of developing a new city district with citizen engagement, limiting energy and water dependencies, by applying decentralised water treatment, energy production and storage.
2. **Water resilience using Nature-based Solutions at catchment scale:** This session focused on more efficient use of water, as well as the key role of natural ecosystems and the presence of vegetation in boosting regional water resilience, water availability, nature restoration and regional prosperity.
3. **Water-resilient industries in Europe:** As one of Europe's main water users, this session explored how to maintain industry competitiveness in a rapidly changing world, while still guaranteeing access to water for households and agriculture.
4. **European policy supporting water resilience:** This session was dedicated to reflections taken from the Belgian presidency of the EU Council to improve water resilience through EU initiatives, including Water4All.

This event was, once again, a great opportunity to **increase the visibility of the Partnership** with a strong **networking setting within the European Commission** and other affiliated funding agencies under Water4All. The extra focus on education and citizen engagement was also of added value for the overall objectives of the Partnership.



Figure 16. Presentation of Water4All at the EU Green Week 2024 Partner Event by Water4All CEO Ariane Blum (right-bottom), together with a highlight on the selected WoLL in the WaterCampus Leeuwarden of Wetsus.

Simultaneously with the EU Green Week 2024, the European Commission has also launched a new initiative entitled **‘Water Wise EU Campaign: A Step Towards a Water-Resilient Europe by 2050’**. This communication campaign is aimed at raising awareness around water pollution and scarcity, as well as incentivizing Europeans to unite and “See Water Differently”. The goals are both to engage citizens but also put forward a more proactive policy agenda around water, by e.g. addressing it as a standalone topic beyond the EU Green Deal, financing transition towards a Water-Smart Society through a Blue deal Transition Fund, and investing in collaboration, research, and innovation through living labs, such as the Water-oriented Living Labs promoted by Water4All. As such, Water4All has committed itself to join and share this campaign, by disseminating the materials prepared by the EU Commission through its several communication channels aiming to reach a broader audience. The main outcome is to the Partnership is to directly **contribute to putting water higher in the agenda**, as well as increasing its **engagement with citizens** and other types of stakeholders in the water sector.

Conclusions

Grant Agreement 1 proved to be a **successful startup phase** for the overall activities of the Partnership, and Pillar E engagement to **increase Water4All's visibility in international roadshows** was no exception. Water4All was present in several international fora of relevance for the water sector in **Europe and beyond** and has now several communication materials (e.g., flyers, banners, roll-ups) to increase its visibility in these roadshows. Nonetheless, it is possible to draw some **lessons learnt** to continue and improve the efforts towards internationalisation.

- **Long preparatory phase:** The preparatory phase to kickstart the activities of Pillar E was very long and required a big effort from the lead partners. More coordinated actions with active participation of all partners are required to achieve the biggest impact as possible.
- **Targeted networking:** Networking is one of the biggest key factors for being present and having a spotlight in events and international roadshows. Most of the organizing committees are composed by several important stakeholders. Therefore, increasing visibility and credibility of the Partnership has been crucial to endorse the participation in sessions and events. Moreover, if we aim to be involved as organizing partners, the screening of opportunities must be done well in advance in order to meet the strict deadlines to submit abstracts, presentations, side-events, speaker interventions, among others.
- **Efficient screening of opportunities:** There are a lot of water-related events all year round; however, identifying the most relevant ones for Water4All still remains a bottleneck. We do not aim to be present everywhere; we want to put efforts in the events where we can be of added value and reach impact. Understanding the objectives of each event, identifying the target audience (high-level, research-oriented, citizen engagement, ...) and analysing the thematic is a crucial process in this task. Overall alignment between the Partnership objectives and activities facilitates the selection of events to attend. The Partnership Coordination Team also plays a crucial role to ensure that we maintain an 'helicopter view' and that we are aiming towards a long-term strategy. Moreover, attendance of events should go hand-in-hand with the International Strategy drafted for the Partnership (especially in terms of geographical strategic partners and thematic focus priorities).
- **Impact on climate change:** Travelling all around the world is only possible by plane, which takes a significant tow on the Partnership's carbon footprint. A possible next step to consider could be the drafting of best practices and recommendations when it comes to international travels (also considering aspects such as safety and ethics).
- **Visibility and attendance:** For the moment, attendance of the Water4All partners has mostly been focused on giving visibility to the Partnership, i.e., each partner represents Water4All instead of their own organization. Giving visibility to the Partnership should reinforce visibility to the partner organizations too. A different approach could be combining both strategies by having partners attending international events that are directly relevant for their field of expertise, while also putting Water4All in the spotlight. Clear guidelines must be provided for this by the Pillar E lead team and the Partnership Coordination Team.

The second period of activities for Internationalisation (from June 2024 to May 2026) aims to **build further on these efforts** and continue to coordinate actions towards increasing Water4All's visibility in interested countries and international events and organizations.

ANNEX 1 – Overview of events and identified opportunities

Table 2. Overview of all identified events and opportunities of relevance for Water4All and/or Pilar E partners over the period 2022-2024: date and name of the event, host organization, location in which it took place, important deadlines for submissions, and short description of WaterAll’s contribution in case of attendance.

Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from Water4All (W4A)
11/01/2022	14/01/2022	Second International Conference on Water, Megacities and Global Change	UNESCO-IHP	Online		
16/01/2022	19/01/2022	G-STIC Dubai 2022	G-STIC	Dubai, UAE (and online)		
21/02/2022	23/02/2022	Colloque international Climat Urbain entre urbanisation et aléas/changement climatique		Agadir, Morocco		
01/03/2022		WWT Smart Water Conference 2022: realising the value of smart networks and technology		Birmingham, UK		
21/03/2022	25/03/2022	9th World Water Forum: Water Security for Peace and Development	World Water Council	Dakar, Senegal		
25/04/2022		UNESCO “Science for a Water Secure World in a Changing Environment” (IHP-IX)	UNESCO-IHP	Paris, France		
16/05/2022	18/05/2022	Global Water Summit: Water-Positive Zero Carbon	Global Water Intelligence (GWI)	Madrid, Spain		
31/05/2022	01/06/2022	3rd International Symposium Climate change & Water 2022: extreme events, water and environment		Tours, France		
31/05/2022		High-level online event: Enhancing water security for better resilience to climate threats	WaterAid	Online		
14/06/2022	15/06/2022	Water Innovation Europe 2022	Water Europe	Brussels, Belgium		
16/06/2022	17/06/2022	Urbinat Conference: Nature for Innovative and Inclusive Urban Regeneration	Urbinat	Milan, Italy		
04/07/2022	08/07/2022	iEMs 2022 Conference		Brussels, Belgium		
25/07/2022	29/07/2022	International Symposium on Managing Land and Water for Climate-Smart Agriculture	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	Vienna, Austria		
28/07/2022		Love Tomorrow Conference	G-STIC, Tomorrowland	Boom, Belgium		

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

Table 2 (cont.). Overview of all identified events and opportunities of relevance for Water4All and/or Pilar E partners over the period 2022-2024: date and name of the event, host organization, location in which it took place, important deadlines for submissions, and short description of WaterAll’s contribution in case of attendance.

Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
28/08/2022	01/09/2022	World Water Week	Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)	Stockholm, Sweden		
11/09/2022	15/09/2022	IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition	IWA	Copenhagen, Denmark		
19/09/2022	22/09/2022	European Water Technology Week	WaterCampus	Leeuwarden, Netherlands		
20/09/2022	21/09/2022	Water Reuse Europe Conference and Exhibition on Innovations in Water Reuse	Water Reuse Europe (WRE), Catalan Water Partnership (CWP)	Girona, Spain		
23/09/2022		Launch event 'Driving Urban Transitions' partnership	Flemish Government, VLAIO, FWO	Brussels, Belgium		
13/10/2022	14/10/2022	Water4All kick-off meeting	Water4All	Brussels, Belgium		
16/10/2022	19/10/2022	Cairo Water Week 2022: “Water at the Heart of Climate Action”	Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Egypt	Cairo, Egypt		
17/10/2022	19/10/2022	Water & Humanity International Symposium		Muscat, Oman		
17/10/2022	18/10/2022	Global Workshop on Water, Agriculture and Climate Change	UNECE	Geneva, Switzerland		
18/10/2022	19/10/2022	Water Knowledge Europe 2022	Water Europe	Brussels, Belgium		
04/11/2022	13/11/2022	COP14 Convention on Wetlands	IUCN	Geneva, Switzerland		
04/11/2022		Webinar Governance and Integrity within the WEFE Nexus	Bonn Water Network, Water Integrity Network	Online		
06/11/2022	18/11/2022	COP27	UNFCCC	Egypt		
07/11/2022		Water Projects Europe: The role of Wetlands and other Nature-Based Solutions in tackling Water Scarcity in the Circular Economy era	Water Europe	Online		
09/11/2022		GrowGreen Project Final conference - Cities of the future: nature-based solutions for resilience in the face of climate change	IUCN	Brest, France		
17/11/2022		Public Seminar VIVAQUA Aqua Publica Europa: WATER AND ENERGY - A Complex Nexus	Aqua Publica Europea	Brussels, Belgium		

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

Table 2 (cont.). Overview of all identified events and opportunities of relevance for Water4All and/or Pilar E partners over the period 2022-2024: date and name of the event, host organization, location in which it took place, important deadlines for submissions, and short description of WaterAll’s contribution in case of attendance.

Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
28/11/2022		EU Commission webinar : Nature-based solutions for climate and water pollution mitigation in agricultural regions	EU Commission	Online		
01/12/2022	03/12/2022	Water Security and Climate Change Conference		Bangkok, Thailand		
01/12/2022		Smart Water 2022	Blueark	Verbier, Switzerland		
05/12/2022	07/12/2022	3rd International Conference – Green Deal Implementation : Water, Raw Materials & Energy	Mineral and Energy Economy Research Institute, Polish Academy of Sciences	Online		
07/12/2022	08/12/2022	UN-Water Groundwater Summit	UN Water	Paris, France		Participation of W4A CEO Ariane Blum and preparation for UN Water Conference.
15/12/2022	16/12/2022	Horizon Europe Info Days : Work Programme 2023-2024 of Horizon Europe (HE) Cluster 5 – Climate, Energy & Mobility	EU Commission	Online		
15/01/2023	19/01/2023	13th IWA International Conference on Water Reclamation and Reuse	IWA	Chennai, India		
18/01/2023	22/01/2023	8th IWA Water Resource Recovery Modelling Seminar	IWA	Stellenbosch, South Africa		
13/02/2023	15/02/2023	G-STIC Rio Conference	G-STIC	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil		Participation Pillar E lead in Water Plenary session in collaboration with VITO: international cooperation for SDG6.
05/03/2023	08/03/2023	Water Reuse Symposium	WaterReuse Association	Atlanta, US		
14/03/2023		WWT Smart Water Conference		Birmingham, UK		
22/03/2023	24/03/2023	UN Water Conference 2023	UN Water	New York, US	Side events: 13/01/2023	4 side-events: Collaborative Innovation: the key towards a Water Smart Society (VITO, Water Europe); The Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration in freshwater ecosystems (UÉvora); Transdisciplinary Ecohydrology for the acceleration of SDG (Ministry of Industry, Poland); Inclusive Science for Water Security (Ministry of Infrastructure, Chile).

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

Table 2 (cont.). Overview of all identified events and opportunities of relevance for Water4All and/or Pillar E partners over the period 2022-2024: date and name of the event, host organization, location in which it took place, important deadlines for submissions, and short description of WaterAll’s contribution in case of attendance.

Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
19/04/2023	21/04/2023	UNESCO International Conference on Climate Risk, Vulnerability and Resilience Building	UNESCO	Paris, France (and online)	Abstracts: 18/01/2023 Side events: 18/01/2023	
25/04/2023	26/04/2023	Enabel Conference “Is climate change adaptation is all about water?”	Enabel	Brussels, Belgium		Panelist on WoLLs, Pillar D (City of Mechelen and Water Europe). Co-organisation with VITO.
02/05/2023	04/05/2023	UN STI Forum : 8th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals	UN Water	New York, US	Abstracts: 16/02/2023 Full submissions: 10/03/2023	Panelist on "Integrated solutions to make progress across SDGs 6, 7, and 9" (Catarina Baptista, VITO).
08/05/2023	10/05/2023	Global Water Summit		Berlin, Germany		
28/05/2023	02/06/2023	18th IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologies: Achieving Sustainability Through Water Technology	IWA	Daegu, Korea	Papers: 31/12/2023	
03/06/2023	11/06/2023	EU Green Week	EU Commission	Brussels, Belgium		
04/06/2023	06/06/2023	Singapore International Water Week "Urgent Climate Action for a Sustainable Water Future"	SIWW+	Marina Bay, Singapore		
04/06/2023	09/06/2023	21st International Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology	IWA	Darwin, Australia		
06/06/2023	09/06/2023	WEF/IWA Innovations in Process Engineering: Sustainable Water Resource Recovery	IWA	Portland, Oregon, USA		
07/06/2023	09/06/2023	Water Innovation and Circularity Conference: Closing Hydrousa HEU project conference		Athens, Greece		Presentation W4A + Pillar D Living Labs: Georgia Anousaki (GSRI), Andrea Rubini (WE)
20/06/2023	21/06/2023	Sweden's EU Presidency - Opportunities to promote Water4All Partnership: meeting with Water Directors				
20/06/2023	22/06/2023	Water Innovation Europe 2023: EU Water Policy, What's next?	Water Europe	Brussels, Belgium		VITO
26/06/2023	29/06/2023	6th IWA International Conference on Eco-Technologies for Wastewater Treatment	IWA	Girona, Spain		

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

Table 2 (cont.). Overview of all identified events and opportunities of relevance for Water4All and/or Pilar E partners over the period 2022-2024: date and name of the event, host organization, location in which it took place, important deadlines for submissions, and short description of WaterAll’s contribution in case of attendance.

Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
26/06/2023	30/06/2023	Sustainability Research + Innovation (SRI) Congress	Futureearth	Panamá City, Panamá		Participation W4A + Water JPI: Juliette Arabi (ANR)- collect contacts from Latin America / Caribbean
03/07/2023	07/07/2023	Novatech2023 "International Conference Urban Water"		Lyon, France	Abstracts: 23/12/2022	
12/07/2023	20/07/2023	IAHS International Congress - 28th IUGG General Assembly		Berlin, Germany		
23/07/2023	27/07/2023	ICCB2023 - International Congress for Conservation Biology	Society for Conservation Biology	Kigali, Rwanda		Ana Mendes, UÉvora - develop questionnaire to identify relevant partners in Africa
23/07/2023	26/07/2023	10th IWA Membrane Technology Conference & Exhibition for Water and Wastewater Treatment and Reuse	IWA	St. Louis, Missouri, US		
21/08/2023	25/08/2023	40th IAHR World Congress "Rivers – Connecting Mountains and Coasts"	IAHR	Vienna, Austria		M. Zaleswki is invited as a keynote speaker and will advice on W4A / Helena Alegre, LNEC attending
28/08/2023	03/09/2023	World Water Week	SIWI	Stockholm, Sweden		VITO speaker in session - mention of W4A Living Labs and Partnership
30/08/2023	01/09/2023	European Environmental Law Forum 2023 : Environmental law in transformation - legal implementation and impacts of the EU Green Deal		Leipzig, Germany		Presentation of W4A - follow up commitment from UN Water Conference: Ana Mendes, UÉvora
06/09/2023	07/09/2023	Hydropower Asia conference	Powerline	Hanoi, Vietnam		Bret Skacel and Kristian Cely (CREA) present Water4All + ministers + UNDP
10/09/2023	14/09/2023	10th IWA Microbial Ecology and Water Engineering Specialist Conference	IWA	Brisbane, Australia		
11/09/2023	15/09/2023	XVIII IWRA World Water Congress "Water for All: Harmony between humans and nature"	IWRA	Beijing, China	Abstracts and side events: 28/02/2023	2 Presentations W4A: UÉvora + side event organised by platform 10j (Antonio Lo Porto, Ana Mendes, Bjorn Jensen)
13/09/2023	13/09/2023	Conférence sur la coopération avec l'Afrique en matière de R&I		Brussels, Belgium		VITO to explore contacts with African partners
13/09/2023	13/09/2023	Kick-off conference for the EU-WB Policy Dialogue Stakeholder Platform	Western Balkans info Hub	Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina		B2B meetings with Western Balkans representatives: Ariane Blum, W4A CEO
13/09/2023	15/09/2023	11th IWA Efficient Urban Water Management Conference 2023	IWA	Bordeaux, France		
17/09/2023	22/09/2023	IAH 50th Worldwide Groundwater Congress	International Association of Hydrologists (IAH)	Cape Town, South Africa		Presentation of the EU survey + W4A: Klaus Hinsby (GEUS), link to W4A call 2023 "Aquatic Ecosystem Services"

Deliverable 5.4 – Supporting workshops during international water-related trade shows

Table 2 (cont.). Overview of all identified events and opportunities of relevance for Water4All and/or Pilar E partners over the period 2022-2024: date and name of the event, host organization, location in which it took place, important deadlines for submissions, and short description of WaterAll’s contribution in case of attendance.

Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
18/09/2023	08/10/2023	European Sustainable Development Week	Environment Ministers of France, Germany and Austria	Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary		
21/09/2023	21/09/2023	Blue Economy Summit 2023	Prime point and CEI	Skopje, Macedonia		
26/09/2023	30/09/2023	SER2023 - 10th World Conference on Ecological Restoration	SER (Society for Ecological Restoration)	Darwin, Australia		Launch of Water Restoration Commitment + Water4All presentation by Ana Mendes, UÉvora
30/09/2023	04/10/2023	WEFTEC 2023 Global Center Program Session Form		Chicago, Illinois, US		W4A session and networking event: WaterAlliance (Stefan Bergsma) and France Water Team (Thelma Pellicer)
01/10/2023	05/10/2023	International Conference “Closed cycles and the Circular Society 2023: The power of ecological engineering”	International Ecological Engineering Society (IEES)	Crete, Greece		
02/10/2023	04/10/2023	Africa Water Forum : Driving water sustainability and security in the region	IWMI	Rabat, Maroc		Helena Alegre, LNEC
15/10/2023	18/10/2023	The 1st IWA Non-Sewered Sanitation	IWA, WRC (Water Research Commission)	Johannesburg, South-Africa		WRC session, with Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) South Africa - Tiyani Chauke
17/10/2023	19/10/2023	EURO-RIOB International Conference	EU-INBO	Valencia, Spain		
22/10/2023	26/10/2023	9th IWA Aspire Conference & Exhibition 2023: One water for smart cities	IWA	Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei		
29/10/2023	02/11/2023	IWA Regional Conference on Water Reuse in Water Scarce Countries	IWA	Antalya, Turkey		
01/11/2023	04/11/2023	5th IWA Resource Recovery Conference	IWA	Shenzhen, China		
08/11/2023		Ecomundo	Italian Exhibition Group	Brussels, Belgium		Presentation of Water4All by CREA
01/12/2023		COP28		Dubai		Water Europe - Water4Climate pavilion / WaterAlliance session on circular water in Buildings and houses
03/12/2023	08/12/2023	IWA Specialised Conference on Water and Wastewater Systems for Developing Countries	IWA	Perth, Australia		

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Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
03/12/2023	08/12/2023	8th IWA Specialist Conference on Natural Organic Matter and Particle Separation	IWA, WRC	Boksburg, South Africa		
10/12/2023	14/12/2023	IWA WDCE	IWA	Kigali, Rwanda		Tiyani Chauke (WRC) participation
10/01/2024	12/01/2024	Nordic Geological Winter Meeting: Geology for Society	Geological Society of Sweden	Gothenburg, Sweden		Klaus Hinsby, GEUS keynote on groundwater + distribution of Water4All flyers
17/01/2024	17/01/2024	Canada1Water	Canada One Water and Geological Survey of Canada	Online		Klaus Hinsby, GEUS webinar presentation + mention of Water4All
05/02/2024	07/02/2024	5th Mediterranean Water Forum: “For a new culture of Water”	Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)	Cité de la Culture, Tunisia		Manuel Sapiano (EWA) participation + mention W4A in 2 sessions
19/02/2024	21/02/2024	2nd UfM Stakeholder Conference on Sustainable Blue Economy	UfM	Athens, Greece		GSRI presents W4A
26/02/2024	01/03/2024	Sixth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6)	UNEP	Nairobi		ISPRA in support to the Italian Ministry of Environment + presentation of W4A in side-event on water security and water resilience
12/03/2024	12/03/2024	Water Conference of the Belgian EU Presidency	VMM, Belgian EU Presidency	Leuven, Belgium		Attending: VITO, APE, VMM, Water Europe - postponed Water Resilience Initiative
19/03/2024	19/03/2024	BIOEAST - Clustering event fresh water related projects	BIOEAST, Hungarian EU Presidency	Brussels, Belgium		Presentation of Water4All by Ariane Blum (ANR)
20/03/2024	21/03/2024	European Research and Innovation days	DG RTD, Belgian EU Presidency	Brussels, Belgium		
22/03/2024	22/03/2024	Living Lab Lisbon B-WaterSmart: World Water Day event	LNEC			LNEC, Water Europe, ANR (presentation W4A, link with Water4All Pillar D activities on WoLL)
28/03/2024	30/03/2024	Ecomundo	Italian Exhibition Group	Chengdu, China		Francesco FATONE, PhD, IWA Fellow represents W4A
03/04/2024	05/04/2024	The West’s premier symposium on managed aquifer recharge		Arizona, Tucson, USA	Early bird: 02/3/2024 Set up booths, no call for presentations	Participation of Henry Debattista, EWA
10/04/2024	13/04/2024	4th International Conference WATERS IN SENSITIVE AND PROTECTED AREAS	Croatian Water Pollution Control Society, European Water Association (EWA)	Pula, Croatia		Klaus Hinsby (GEUS) part of scientific committee, but did not attend

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Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
10/04/2024	12/04/2024	CIEPEC - China International Environmental Protection Exhibition and Conference	China Association of Environmental Protection Industry	Beijing China		
15/04/2024	17/05/2024	9th Our Ocean Conference	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece	Athens, Greece		GSRI presents W4A
17/04/2024	19/04/2024	Ecomundo	Italian Exhibition Group	Guadalajara, Mexico		Francesco Fatone, PhD, IWA Fellow represents W4A
17/04/2024	18/04/2024	8th NTNU European Conference	NTNU	Brussels, Belgium (and online)		
24/04/2024	25/04/2024	Working group groundwater: Water Framework Directive	DG ENV	Liège, Belgium		Link to EU Green Week - Klaus Hinsby (GEUS) represents W4A in workshop and discussions
08/05/2024	10/05/2024	ACE International Partnerships Workshop	Association of African Universities, EU Commission, Western Balkans, Croatian government	Mauritius (and online)		Water4All co-organises workshop: attendance ISPRA, VITO, Wetsus, UÉvora (online)
13/05/2024	17/05/2024	IFAT		Munich, Germany		Water4All session organised by KIT-PTKA and H2O cluster + Water Alliance: presentation by A. Blum, E. Diez-Cebollero, A. Petzold. Bjorn K. Jensen attends Council meeting for EU water association - honorary member.
14/05/2024	15/04/2024	Indalo symposium	UNIDO	Pretoria, South Africa		Presentation W4A (WRC + VITO): VITO collaboration with UNIDO - water management in agro-industry (workshop with CSIR / WRC)
17/05/2024	20/05/2024	IWA Conference on Sustainable Sludge Management	IWA	Beijing, China		
20/05/2024	25/05/2024	10th World Water Forum	World Water Council	Bali, Indonesia		W4A co-organizing 2 sessions + 1 HLP + setup pavillion (sharing with European Commission)
29/05/2024	30/09/2024	EU Green Week: Towards a water resilient Europe	European Union	Brussels, Belgium		W4A side-event: Water4All boosting EU Water Resilience (Sweden source separation, Barcelona, Leeuwaarden, Flanders) – Ariane Blum (ANR) and Pieter De Jong (Wetsus)
29/05/2024	31/05/2024	Living Lab Alicante B-WaterSmart	Water Europe	Alicante, Spain		Presentation by Water Europe WoLLs
03/06/2024	07/06/2024	Posidonia (International Shipping Exhibition)	Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy of Greece	Athens, Greece		GSRI presentation of Blue Economy Partnership + mention W4A

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Start date	End date	Event	Organized by	Place	Deadlines	Contribution from W4A
04/06/2024	07/06/2024	8th IAHR Europe Congress "Water Across Boundaries"	IAHR, LNEC	Lisbon, Portugal	Abstracts: 01/06/2023 Papers: 29/02/2024	W4A special session (Ariane Blum & Esther Diez, ANR), coordination of Helena Alegre, LNEC - SRIA update 2nd consultative workshop
06/06/2024	06/06/2024	Living Lab Flanders B-WaterSmart	Water Europe	Mechelen, Belgium		W4A presentation + field trip WoLL: Water Europe, VITO, Mechelen
10/06/2024	14/06/2024	SRI - Sustainability Research Innovation	SRI	Helsinki, Finland	Abstracts: 20/12/2023	Common session in preparation with other partnerships (DUT, SBEP, Biodiversa+). W4A contacts: ANR (E. Diez, J. Arabi), FORMAS (O. Tikansak)
17/06/2024	19/06/2024	Water Innovation Europe	Water Europe	Brussels, Belgium		WoLLs side event: VITO, Wetsus, CNR and Water4All Chair, Bjorn Jensen
18/06/2024	22/06/2024	Singapore International Water Week	SIWW+	Marina Bay, Singapore	Abstracts and side events: 01/10/2023	
24/06/2024	28/06/2024	IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologies	IWA	Essen, Germany	Abstracts: 03/6/2024	
08/07/2024	10/07/2024	8th IWA YWP BeNeLux Conference	IWA, University of Antwerp	Antwerp, Belgium		Booth VITO + promotion materials of W4A (engage with Young Water Professionals)
11/08/2024	15/08/2024	IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition 2024	IWA	Toronto, Canada	Abstracts and side events: 27/10/2023	Attending: Water-Alliance, VITO, and Water4All Chair, Bjorn Jensen
25/08/2024	29/08/2024	World Water Week	SIWI	Stockholm, Sweden		Submitted proposals: WRC, VITO + TUDelft - WaterCampus youth competition, Water Europe session on WoLLs.
26/08/2024		14th European Conference on Ecological Restoration	SER	Tartu, Estonia		
08/09/2024	11/09/2024	IAH World Groundwater Congress	IAH	Davos, Switzerland		GEUS will present groundwater + link to W4A Joint Transnational Call 2024
04/09/2024	06/09/2024	Islands Water Congress – Freshwater and Islands: Administration, Collaboration and Innovation	IWRA			
07/09/2024	15/09/2024	Fair GSRI	Balkan countries	Germany		GSRI will have own stand - possible to organise an event there together with other initiatives
08/09/2024	12/09/2024	12th IWA Specialized Conference on the Design, Operation and Economics of Large Wastewater Treatment Plants	IWA	Budapest, Hungary		

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22/09/2024	26/09/2024	International Coastal Symposium	University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST)	Doha, Qatar		
23/09/2024	26/09/2024	European Water Technology Week	Wetsus, Water Alliance, CEW and CIV-Water	Leeuwarden, Netherlands		Session: funding opportunities for SMEs / Ariane Blum - link with clusters: Michiel Scheffer, President EIC, Luca Perego DG EAC presenting KIC Water, Marine and Maritime, CINEA, Bertrand Vallet DG RTD, João Santos (former) DG Employment
30/09/2024	03/10/2024	IUCN Regional conservation Forum	IUCN	Bruges, Belgium		VITO - W4A workshop in submission + Ana Mendes, UÉvora / possible booth - visibility W4A
30/09/2024	03/10/2024	Drought Resilience +10	Integrated Drought Management Programme	Geneva, Switzerland		
01/10/2024	02/10/2024	Jeju World Water Forum	Jeju Special Self-Governing Province (JPDC)	Jeju Island, South Korea		GEUS is invited
05/10/2024	09/10/2024	WEFTEC Exhibition 2024		New Orleans, Louisiana, US		Water Alliance, FWP, Danish partners (Bjorn Jensen, W4A Chair)
22/10/2024	24/10/2024	ASEM Seminar on Urban Water Management		Changsha and Zhangjiajie, China		Bjorn Jensen, W4A Chair and Antonio Lo Porto, CNR
23/10/2024	25/10/2024	G-STIC Conference New Delhi	G-STIC	New Delhi		Water session organised by VITO - W4A in plenary
04/11/2024	08/11/2024	World Urban Forum 12	UN Habitat	Cairo, Egypt		VITO in a proposal under coordination of Antea Group - represent W4A
05/11/2024	08/11/2024	Ecomundo	Italian Exhibition Group	Rimini, Italy		Francesco FATONE, PhD, IWA Fellow represents W4A
11/11/2024	22/11/2024	COP29	UNFCCC	Baku, Azerbaijan		VITO is collecting info on Water4Climate pavilion
09/12/2024	12/12/2024	6th IAHR Africa Division Congress	IAHR	Marrakech, Morocco	Abstracts: 15/06/2024	Bjorn Jensen, W4A Chair
11/03/2025	14/03/2025	Aquatech		Amsterdam, NL		Coordination of speaker slots and official program by Water Alliance: possible session on WoLLs
19/03/2025	21/03/2025	Water Philippines	Informa Markets in Philippines	Manila, Philippines		CREA - interest



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Grant Agreement n° 101060874



**Co-funded by
the European Union**