



Deliverable 5.4

Press releases for first group of local outreach events

Grant Agreement nº: 956623

Project full title: Inventive forecasting tools for adapting water quality management to a new climate

Project acronym: inventWater

Type of deliverable: report

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 956623



A new generation of scientists is developing the predictive models of tomorrow to inform on the impact of climate change and extreme events on our water resources

October 2022: Long-term climate change, extreme events, and seasonal variations in weather have profound impacts on water quality of rivers, lakes, and reservoirs. This implies a pressing need for tools that can anticipate the impacts of environmental changes on our water resources, and thus support effective water management that safeguards the ecosystem goods and services that freshwaters provide. The increasing availability of new meteorological data products and advances in modelling tools now mean that it is possible for the first time to produce reliable forecasts for lake and river water quality on a regional and global scale, an unexploited potential in the water sector.

Now the project inventWater, funded by the European Union and coordinated by the Catalan Institute for Water Research in Girona (Spain), is training 15 postgraduate researchers from 14 nationalities, who are based in research institutes across Europe, to develop a new generation of predictive models to anticipate the effects of long-term climate change, extreme events, and seasonal variations in climate on water quality in rivers, lakes, and reservoirs. "Understanding these impacts is important because of the negative effects they can have on the services that rivers, lakes and reservoirs provide for society, in particular on the provision of safe water for drinking, recreational and economic use", says Rafael Marcé, coordinator of the project. The Early Stage Researchers in the inventWater programme are being trained as the next generation of scientists who will meet this challenge. As well as their PhD training in their own institutes, they have also had the opportunity to be hosted by partners within the network to broaden their experience and expertise, including those from the water management sector.

InventWater will run until 2025, when all the work by the Early Stage Researchers (ESR) will result in 15 PhD dissertations encapsulating all developed solutions and several outreach activities to inform society and industry.

About ICRA (this is an institute specific text, the institution releasing the news must be described here):

The Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA) is an international reference for research on the integral water cycle, water resources, water quality (in its broadest sense: chemical, microbiological, ecological), and treatment and evaluation technologies. ICRA's mission is achieving scientific excellence to offer global, efficient and competitive instruments to face the challenges posed by ongoing global changes, and to transfer this knowledge to society and industry.

ICRA is based in Girona, Spain, and was created on October 26th 2006 by the government of the Generalitat de Catalunya. It is a CERCA center attached to the University of Girona and has the support of its trustees: the Department of Business and

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Knowledge of the Generalitat (DECO), the Catalan Water Agency (ACA) and the University of Girona (UdG).

ENDS

About inventWater:

inventWater, “Inventive forecasting tools for adapting water quality management to a new climate”, is funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2021 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement 956623. MSCA-ITN-ETN – European Training Network, coordinated by the Catalan Institute for Water Research (Spain). It will run until 2025 and its consortium is participated by the University of Aarhus (Denmark), Dundalk Institute of Technology (Ireland), Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (Germany), International Institute for Applied System Analysis (Austria), Ruhr-University Bochum (Germany), University of Stirling (UK), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium), Wageningen University (The Netherlands), University College Cork (Ireland), and 16 additional partners from the academic and industry sector.

For more information please visit: <https://inventwater.eu/about/>

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Outreach activities in inventWater

Here it is the list of the multiple outreach activities carried on since October 2021 (when the first Early-Stage Researcher started its project) in the inventWater project:

- Angela Pedregal (ESR8) participated in the European Researchers Night in September 2022 presenting her InventWater project to the public in Girona, Spain;
- Ilaria Micella (ESR5) actively participated in the 2nd Plastic Day and the SENSE Symposium in May 2022 organised by the Wageningen University (The Netherlands) with the objective of impacting the community;
- She (ESR5) also was part of the organization of the PhD Week for the Water System Global Change Chair group, and participated in several networking and outreach activities in Italian Universities in the second week of September 2022
- Mahtab Yaghouti (ESR11) presented her research project in an multidisciplinary audience where she interacted with academics from agriculture, computer science and psychology fields in June 2022
- Sabin Taranu (ESR4) is producing a website and personal blog to present his scientific results to the general public.
- Maud Siebers (ESR3) together with Mahtab Yaghouti (ESR11) are planning to organise outreach activities to impact the general public in Stirling, Scotland in 2023.