

## Eco-AlpsWater

Innovative Ecological Assessment and Water Management Strategy for the  
Protection of Ecosystem Services in Alpine Lakes and Rivers

Priority 3: Liveable Alpine Space. SO3.2 - Enhance the protection, the  
conservation and the ecological connectivity of Alpine Space

Project Eco-AlpsWater

Work Package WPT4

Activity A.T4.3

Deliverable D.T4.3.1

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### Deliverable D.T4.3.1

#### National meetings organized by government PPs.

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Interreg Alpine Space - Eco-AlpsWater project – WP4

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## Introduction

The activities carried out during the implementation of the project, and in particular during the sampling activities, laboratory analysis and data analysis, have created numerous multidisciplinary groups of persons belonging both to academia and governments bodies. This allowed a mutual transfer of knowledge to the government bodies (such as Environmental agencies) responsible of the implementation of WFD/WPO and academy, and viceversa. The aim of the “Alpine water cooperation network” (EAW network) is to promote “a set of guidelines for the adoption of NGS and new biomonitoring tools in WFD by government and environmental agencies, which are in charge for the application of biomonitoring programs in the different countries.

To allow maximum dissemination and transfer of novel methods in the six countries, a number of meetings were organized at the national level. The meetings involved the participation of a partner of the EAW project, and stakeholders, local, regional and national agencies, and policymakers.

More specifically, the meetings have two objectives. From one side, they allowed dissemination at national languages of new methods, raising awareness about the necessity to upgrade the traditional aquatic biomonitoring schemes; on the other side, the meetings were necessary to transfer the new methods developed within the EAW consortium to other government bodies responsible of the application of biomonitoring protocols for the assessment of water ecological status.

Along with the meetings organized at the international level, and along with the presentation of the results obtained in the EAW project to scientific congresses

and workshops (see deliverable D.T4.2.1), the meetings organized at the national level contributed to lay the foundation for the development of the EAW network.

The EAW network is one of the most important output of the project. It is aimed to ensure the continuation of the relationships among the official partners, observers, stakeholders, as well as new academic and government bodies also after the closure of the project.

## Index of events

### Italy

- On 10<sup>th</sup> September ISPRA organised a national event for stakeholders, local, regional and national agencies, 100 persons were registered to the event.
- The first of July 2020 first meeting in videoconference of the Working Group of the SNPA, coordinated by ISPRA.
- On October the 16<sup>th</sup> 2019, the Second Italian Eco-AlpsWater regional meeting in Rome was organised and hosted by ISPRA
- Eco-AlpsWater Italian partners (ARPAV, FEM, ISPRA) and Swiss partner (SUPSI) organised a big and resonant local event in Verona
- On November 2018, the First Italian Eco-AlpsWater regional meeting was organised in Milan

### France

- A one-day seminar “Quo vadis, la biosurveillance basée sur l'ADN?” organised by INRAE in partnership with Cost DNAquaNet specifically addressed to non-academics & stakeholders (in total 60 participants).
- ½ day session gathering scientists and non-academics from governmental environmental agencies: INRAE presented the recent advances in eDNA biomonitoring for lakes to the Groupe de travail Plan D'eau. Meeting organised by Direction de l'Eau et de la Biodiversité (DGALN/DEB/EARM) - Ministère de la Transition écologique (MTE) &

Office Francais pour la Biodiversité.

## Switzerland

- Eco-AlpsWater Italian partners (ARPAV, FEM, ISPRA) and Swiss partner (SUPSI) organised a big and resonant local event in Verona
- On November 2018, the First Italian Eco-AlpsWater regional meeting was organised in Milan

## Germany

- 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 - German partner (LfU) participated online in the Annual Meeting of the German Limnological Society, which audience includes national stakeholders outside Federal State Bavaria, presenting online the Bavarian EAW metabarcoding results for phytoplankton and benthic diatoms.
- 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021: joined national AT/DE workshop (half day) organised by the PP partners with participation of stakeholders and scientists with up to 25 participants in the CISCO WebEx meeting.

German contributions in the program:

1. Results of fish investigations in Starnberger See (C. Vogelmann, Germany, LfL)
2. Use of “EAW taxa analysis tool” (Version 6) to explore:  
Diatoms / micro-algae in Starnberger und additional lakes in river Wertach - (U. Mischke, Germany, LfU)

Collections of FAQ

- Local information meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 organised by LfL and LfU – One day seminar to introduce the EAW project

## **Austria**

- 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021: joined national AT/DE workshop (half day) organised by the PP partners with participation of stakeholders and scientists with up to 25 participants in the CISCO WebEx meeting

Austrian contributions in the program:

1. Results of fish investigations in Mondsee and river Steyer (H. Rund, AT)
2. Use of “EAW taxa analysis tool” (Version 6) to explore: Diatoms / micro-algae and cyanobacteria in Mondsee and river Steyer (R. Kurmayer, AT)

Collections of FAQ

- 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 - Bavarian information meeting organised by LfL and LfU – One day seminar

## **Slovenia**

- On 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021, ARSO and NIB organized the Slovenian closing conference as a national meeting for policymakers, observers, and others. Katarina Novak, Aleksandra Krivograd Klemenčič, Špela Remec Rekar, Urška Hren, Tina Eleršek, Karmen Stanič

The purpose of the Slovenian national meeting with stakeholders was to

present the project's results regarding the applicability of the new method - environmental DNA (eDNA) and to introduce the method so that everyone will understand its comparative advantages and its complementary value. Extensive discussions were addressed about the applicability of the environmental DNA (eDNA) method and precious feedbacks from stakeholders on how they perceive the advantages and disadvantages of the new sampling method and its usefulness were obtained. Moreover, the possibilities of implementing the new method, what activities are needed, the key carriers, and the next steps and conditions were also discussed.

The conference was attended by 46 participants from 13 institutions: Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning (MOP), Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia (ARSO), National Institute of Biology (NIB), Slovenian Fisheries Institute (ZZRS), National Laboratory for Health, Environment and Food (NLZOH), Water Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (IZVRS), Triglav National Park Public Institution, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (IRSNC), Limnos, Directorate for Water and Investments (part of MESP), College of Conservation of the Environment, Hidrotehnik, Association for Underwater Activities, Bled.

- Communication with Slovenian stakeholders about EAW were held also as a part of meetings where water related problems were the topic (meeting with TNP 10.4.2019, meeting at Bled Municipality 26.5.2020, meeting with Minister of Environment at NIB 2.6.2020)



- National stakeholders were present also at EAW partners meeting 20. and 21.11.2019, discussing the situation in Slovenia.
- On 20.12.2018 the first Slovenian meeting with stakeholders was held, organized by both ARSO and NIB. The event was attended by 12 participants.