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Promoting social innovation to renew multi-level and cross sector water governance

D3.2: InnWater Citizen Engagement Methodology - A practical guidance tool and analysis framework for the creation of River Basin Water Forums #V1

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The InnWater project, funded by the European Union's Horizon EUROPE research and innovation program, aims to promote social innovation in multi-level and cross-sector water governance. **Deliverable 3.2**, titled "The InnWater Citizen Engagement Methodology," provides practical guidance and an analysis framework for citizen engagement with a vision to creating River Basin Water Forums (RBWF). This initiative is part of **Work Package 3 (WP3)**, focused on Quintuple Helix Trust & Engagement, and particularly on defining and assessing citizen engagement solutions (Tasks 3.2 and 3.3). The primary goal of this deliverable is to guide pilot sites in developing **effective Citizen Engagement Roadmaps** for water governance. The document sets a theoretical framework and presents structured methodological guidelines to establish citizen engagement solutions to be implemented in pilot sites. The overarching aim is to enhance citizen involvement in water policy decision-making processes, thereby fostering trust and collaboration between citizens as users, policymakers, and service providers.

Citizen engagement is essential for several reasons. Compliance with Directive 2000/60/EC is a primary factor, as this directive emphasizes the need for public information, consultation, and involvement in water policy. Moreover, citizen engagement is fundamental for open government, empowering citizens to influence policy throughout its lifecycle. Engagement improves accountability, social cohesion, and trust between the public and government, contributing to better governance and public service delivery.

The document outlines a **step-by-step process** for creating Citizen Engagement Roadmaps tailored to specific pilot sites, taking into account their unique social, political, and environmental contexts. It provides a comprehensive approach to citizen engagement analysis, ensuring that diverse citizen groups, including vulnerable populations, are included and actively participate. The methodology includes guidelines for assessing citizen engagement initiatives to ensure they are effective and adaptable. Five pilot sites across Europe—Reunion Island, Brenta, Figueres, West Country, and Middle Tisza—serve as testbeds for implementing and refining the engagement strategies.

The document concludes by emphasizing the importance of continuous citizen engagement and the need for adaptable, context-specific strategies. It underscores the role of citizen engagement in achieving **sustainable water governance** and outlines the next steps for pilot sites to report results and contribute to policy recommendations under WP6. The InnWater project envisions these Citizen Engagement Roadmaps as crucial tools for fostering inclusive and effective water governance, ultimately contributing to the broader goals of social innovation and sustainability in water management.



Document information

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Task	Task 3.2: Definition of InnWater Citizen engagement solutions		
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Revision history

Version	Date	Author(s)/Contributor(s)	Comments
V1	15/07/2024	Joana DIAZ-PONT (EUT), Alice JARAISEH (SIWI)	First version, after internal work with partners.
FV	26/08/2024	Joana DIAZ-PONT (EUT)	Final version after quality check

Related deliverables

This Deliverable 3.2 is especially linked to the D3.1 Citizen Engagement in Europe in the 21st Century, since the conclusion of D3.1 are used to build D3.2.



⇒ If you want to access the full Document, please ask either joana.diaz@eurecat.org or n.amorsi@oieau.fr



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