



Innovative water governance practices Insights from Horizon Europe projects

Seminar

INBO General Assembly 2024 October 7th 2024 Bordeaux



Co-funded by
the European Union



UK Research
and Innovation



GOVAQUA

Reflections from previous session in EUROPE-INBO Conference in Valencia 2023

- A joint GOVAQUA & WaterGovernance2027 Synergy Group event
- Workshop in Valencia identifying innovative water governance practice, enabling the conditions for effective dialogue, knowledge sharing and collaboration among researchers and river basin management community, advancing innovative water governance in Europe
- 70 participants engaged in peer-to-peer feedback and discussions, utilizing EU maps to record water governance challenges and solutions
- This interactive "post-it" session enabled participants to identify key areas for innovative governance approaches such as legal frameworks, participatory approaches, economic instruments and digital water data systems.
- The ongoing online survey continues to collect good practices of innovative water governance



Survey highlights (15 full descriptions, 40 examples recorded)

Themes most frequently represented in forms during first round of case study collection:

1. **Integration of data and tools:** successful water governance relies on integrating diverse data sources and using advanced tools like AI and geospatial data.
2. **Stakeholder engagement:** effective governance depends on collaboration among government, local communities, and private investors.
3. **Knowledge-based management:** promoting knowledge-based decision-making and active participation is key.
4. **Economic and environmental balance:** Projects must balance economic growth with environmental sustainability and fair distribution of costs and benefits.
5. **Adaptive regulations:** Combining existing regulations with new adaptive measures enhances effectiveness.
6. **Continuous engagement and transparency:** ongoing stakeholder collaboration and transparent communication are essential for success.