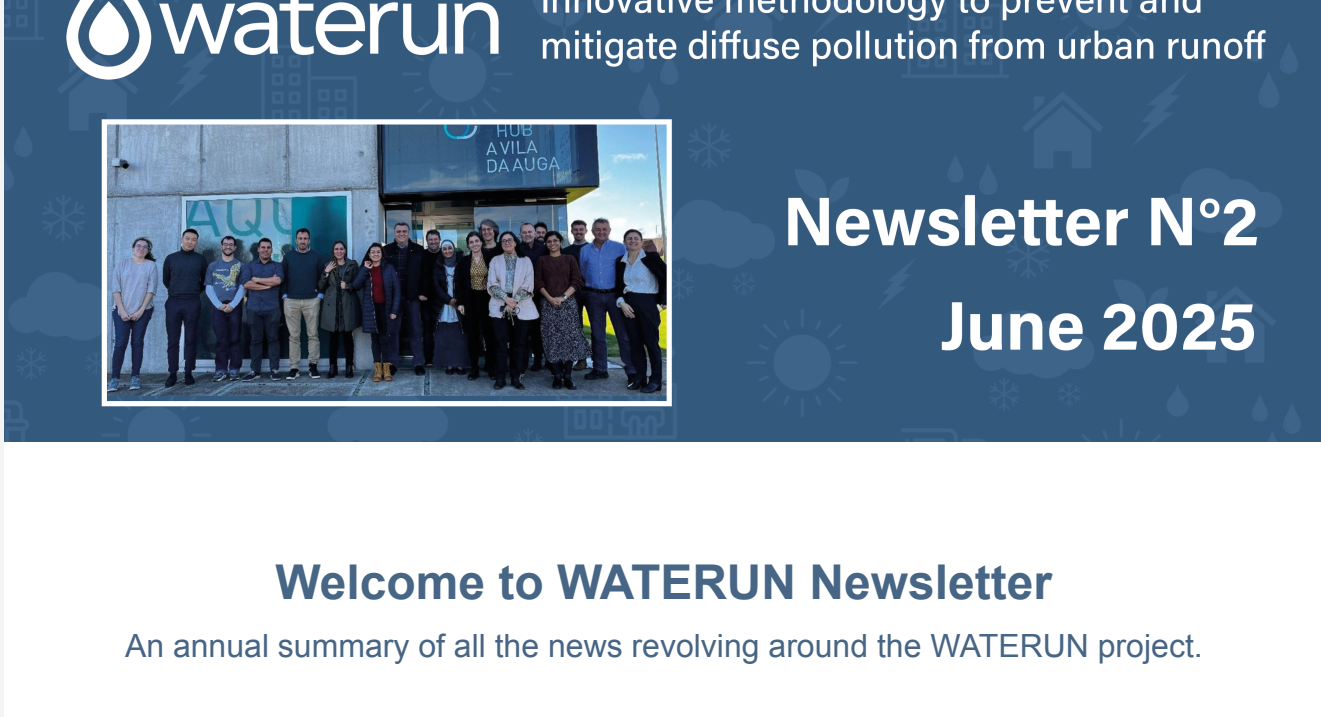
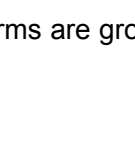
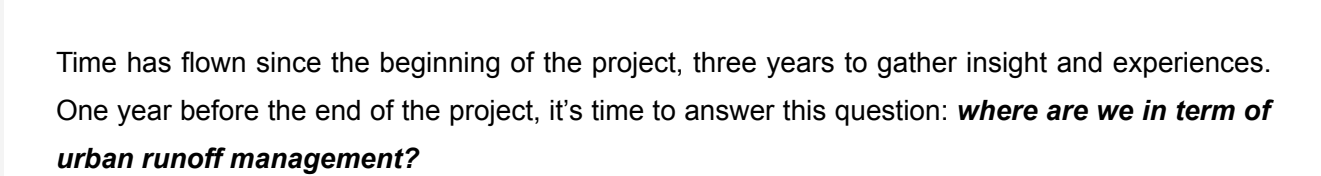


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## Welcome to WATERUN Newsletter

An annual summary of all the news revolving around the WATERUN project.

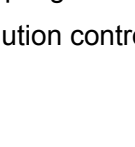


### Dear readers,

Time has flown since the beginning of the project, three years to gather insight and experiences. One year before the end of the project, it's time to answer this question: **where are we in term of urban runoff management?**

For decades, cities have been designed to push water away, fast, far, elsewhere. Asphalt, concrete, underground pipes: everything was built to drain. But today, the climate is shifting, storms are growing stronger, the ground is saturated... and our infrastructure is struggling to keep up.

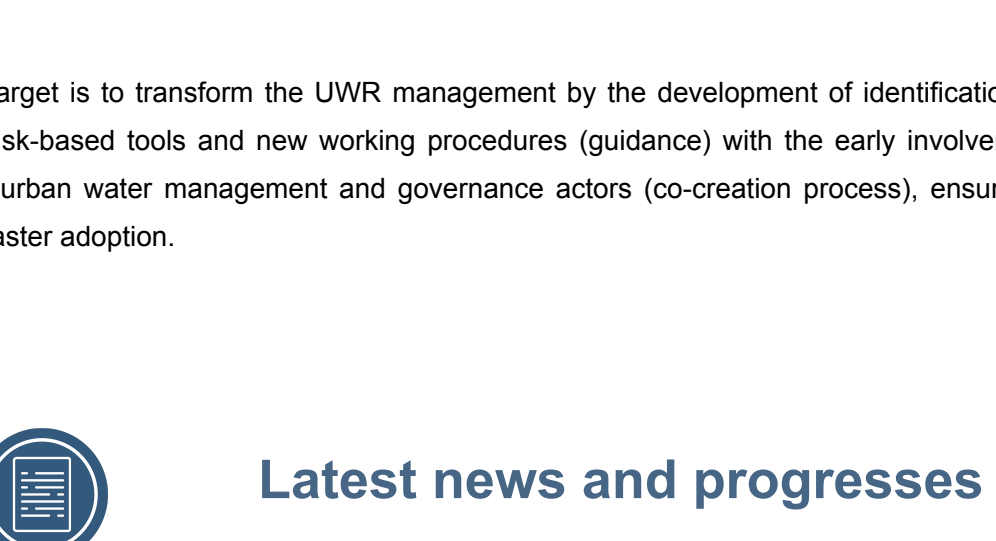
In response, a new mindset is taking shape: cities that embrace rainwater, slowing it down, soaking it in, making space for it. That's the vision behind the **WATERUN** project.



### An overview of WATERUN project

**Before presenting progress and news, a small reminder: what is the goal of the WATERUN project?**

Project funded by the European Union's under Horizon Europe programme, WATERUN aims to develop an innovative methodology to contribute to the implementation of urban water runoff (UWR) management plans in cities based on the Water-Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) concept. This methodology will provide preventive and mitigation solutions and best management practices adopting a holistic perspective (from source identification to decision making) for diffuse water pollution control in urban catchments.

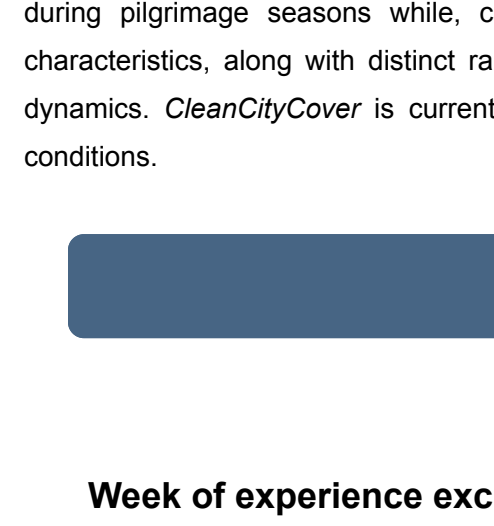


The target is to transform the UWR management by the development of identification, planning and risk-based tools and new working procedures (guidance) with the early involvement of the main urban water management and governance actors (co-creation process), ensuring a wider and faster adoption.



### Latest news and progresses

#### Update on Product 2 –Diffuse Pollution Identification Tool (WP3)



Since November 2024, the team at Technische Universität Berlin (TUB) has been working on *CleanCityCover*, a tool for identifying diffuse pollution sources. It's now adapted to the context of Santiago de Compostela. Initially prototyped in Aarhus, the tool has been reconfigured for five urban sub-zones in Santiago, ranging from the historic city center to the industrial areas of Sionlla and Tambre, where water quality monitoring is underway.

Unlike Aarhus, Santiago presents steep, narrow streets and high pedestrian density, especially during pilgrimage seasons while, car traffic is comparatively moderate. These site-specific characteristics, along with distinct rainfall patterns, may significantly affect runoff and pollution dynamics. *CleanCityCover* is currently being tested and calibrated to account for these local conditions.

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#### Week of experience exchange between WATERUN and AWARD (WP4)



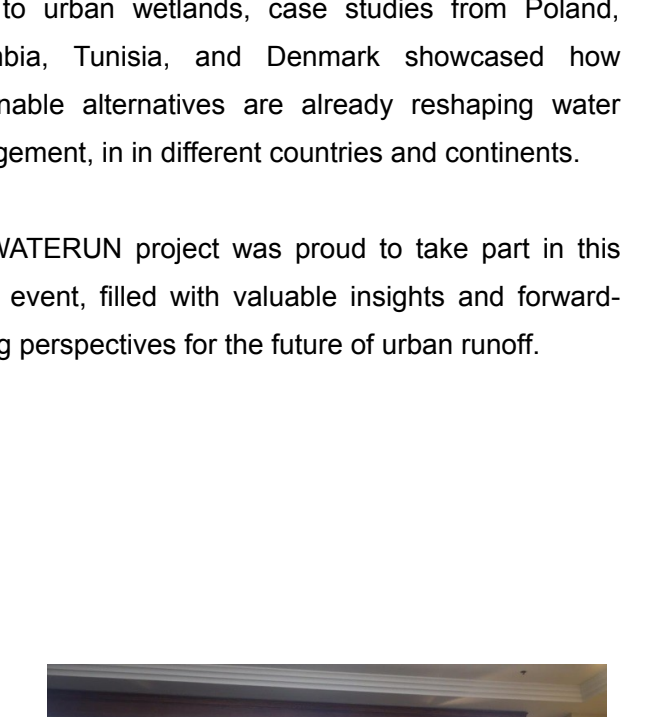
From February2 to 6 2025, WATERUN and AWARD partners came together in Santiago de Compostela for a valuable week of mutual learning. AWARD, another Horizon Europe project focused on integrating alternative water resources, like reclaimed water and stormwater into strategic supply plans, hosted visits to four demonstration sites, including stormwater reuse in an industrial park in Galicia.

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### Events

From November 12 to 14 of 2024, WATERUN project partners gathered in Santiago de Compostela for the **General Meeting**, hosted by Viaqua and Cetaqua Galicia. Two days of rich discussions, site visits, and knowledge sharing—focusing on the progress of the project and innovative approaches to runoff water management.



*An occasion to strengthen the collaboration and move forward together. What is the upcoming key moment? The second project review of the project, the 9<sup>th</sup> of July!*

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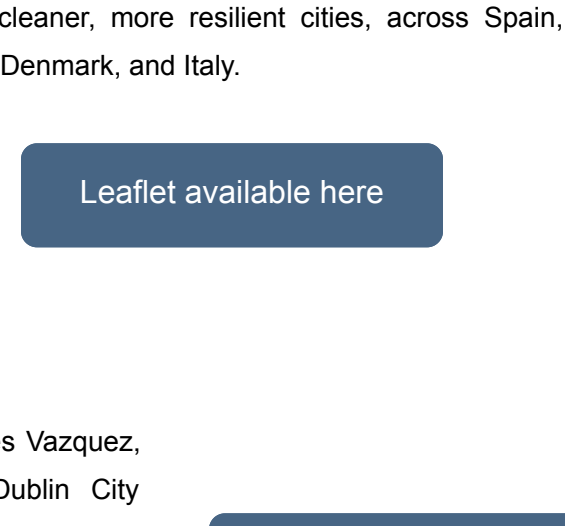


On March 26th, to celebrate World Water Day, five European projects came together to share experiences in a **webinar on Nature-based Solutions**. From green roofs to urban wetlands, case studies from Poland, Colombia, Tunisia, and Denmark showcased how sustainable alternatives are already reshaping water management, in in different countries and continents.

The WATERUN project was proud to take part in this virtual event, filled with valuable insights and forward-looking perspectives for the future of urban runoff.

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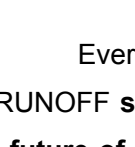
From May 4 to 8, the project headed to Jordan for **Arab Water Week 2025**, held by the Dead Sea in Jordan.



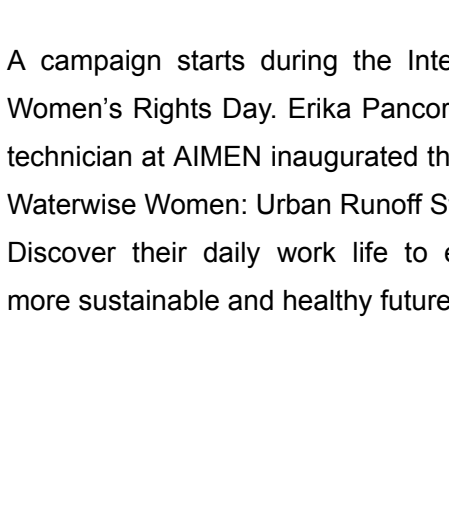
This key regional gathering brought together ministers, researchers, and students to address the complex political, environmental, and social dimensions of water in the Arab region.

Discussions focused on governance, cross-border cooperation, and youth engagement. WATERUN contributed especially through the "CleanStreams" student contest, highlighting innovative urban runoff solutions.

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### Publications and digital resources



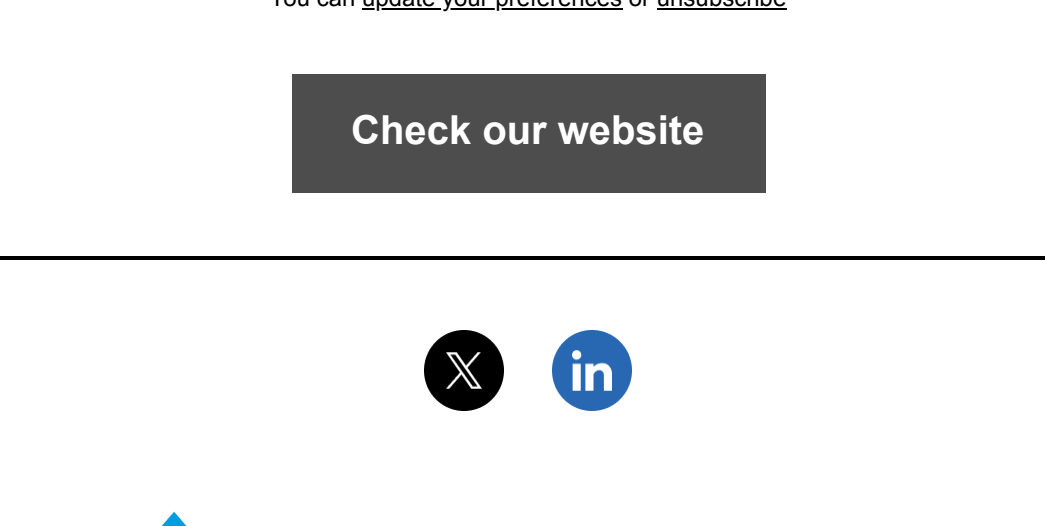
A major milestone for the collaboration between WATERUN and D4RUNOFF occurred in autumn 2024! With support from the Horizon Results Booster, we released a **policy brief, video, and flyer showcasing our innovative solutions to urban runoff pollution**.

From real-time pollutant sensors to AI-powered analysis and green infrastructure, we're working toward cleaner, more resilient cities, across Spain, Jordan, Denmark, and Italy.

[Leaflet available here](#)

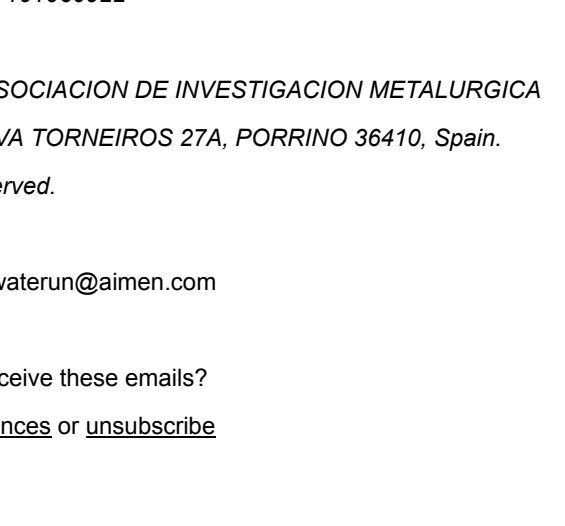
More resources in our **media center**! Mercedes Vazquez, Associate Professor in Analytical Chemistry at Dublin City University, concluded our series of video interviews. Discover our products such as sensors to analyse water samples, software to identify critical sources of pollutantq or even greeninfrastructure. If you prefer to be on the ground, videos on the case studies of the project are also available.

[Check out our media center](#)



Every month, WATERUN and D4RUNOFF **spotlight the women shaping the future of urban runoff management... through comics!**

A campaign starts during the International Women's Rights Day. Erika Pancorbo, a lab technician at AIMEN inaugurated this series, Waterwise Women: Urban Runoff Stories. Discover their daily work life to ensure a more sustainable and healthy future.



[Comics on our LinkedIn page!](#)

WATERUN (2022-2026) has received funding from the European Union's under Horizon Europe programme, Grant agreement n° 101060922

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