

# **AQUIFER PROJECT: “Innovative instruments for an integrated management of groundwater in a context of an increasing scarcity of hydrological resources”**

## **ACTIVITY 4.2 TRANSNATIONAL PLATFORM**

*Date: 31/10/2022*



The transnational Aquifer platform has been carried out within the framework of the Interreg-Sudoe AQUIFER project, led by the CN IGME-CSIC (Geological and Mining Institute of Spain), with the participation of the partners CUADLL (Comunitat d'usuaris d'aigua de la vall baixa i delta del Llobregat), CWP (Catalan Water Partnership), CRCC (Campo de Cartagena Irrigation Community), BRGM (Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières), Aqua-Valley, ISA-LEAF (Higher Institute of Agronomy of the University de Lisboa), AR (Águas do Ribatejo), and PPA (Associação Parceria Portuguesa para a Água).

This document has been developed under the direction of Aqua-Valley.



## CONTEXT

The Interreg Sudoe AQUIFER project entitled "Innovative tools for the integration of groundwater in a context of increasing scarcity of water resources", is a project financed by the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER) within the framework of the Interreg SUDOE V program (2014-2020). Its main objective is to capitalize, test, disseminate and transfer innovative practices for the preservation, monitoring and integrated management of aquifers that are useful when making decisions on the management of groundwater resources.

To achieve this objective, the project is divided into 4 groups of specific tasks. Specifically, this document explains the deliverable of the activity 4.2 called "Creation of a transnational platform".

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# 1. Introduction

Following the activity 4.1 in which 30 innovative practices were identified regarding underground water, the clusters: Aqua-Valley (France), Catalan Water Partnership (Spain) and the Portuguese Water Partnership (Portugal), have launched the AQUIFER web platform to highlight the innovative practices and to foster the dissemination of the good practices around Sudoe territory and larger.

The platform was launch in October 2022, and present 30 innovative practices on the preservation, monitoring and management of groundwater. But the idea is to allow the website visitors to propose their own innovative practices in order to enrich the platform content.

## 2. Presentation of the platform

### AQUIFER platform : how to access ?

The AQUIFER web platform present concrete solutions for the preservation of groundwater and is available on the following link ► [platform.aquifer-sudoe.eu](https://platform.aquifer-sudoe.eu)



The AQUIFER web platform has been online since Thursday, November 17, 2022 with an e-book presenting 30 innovative solutions, among which we find, for example, a technology for the elimination of nitrates by bioremediation, a solution for the continuous monitoring of salt intrusions in the aquifer or even a system for sharing the resource by issuing licenses.

The platform is available in 4 languages (French, English, Spanish and Portuguese) and is intended to be scalable: project leaders can submit their innovation to the AQUIFER evaluation committee, for a publication on the platform.

## The AQUIFER platform: an answer to an alarming finding

In a context of resource scarcity and of increasingly frequent and intense droughts, groundwater is an essential resource. However, they are subject to increasing pressures linked to their overexploitation and to pollution caused by intense industrial and agricultural activities. The international scientific community agrees that groundwater and the many associated ecosystems are seriously threatened.

Faced to this urgency, the AQUIFER web platform is presenting multiple interest:

- For water sector players (users or managers), the AQUIFER platform is an opportunity to discover and integrate innovative solutions into their daily practices.
- For administrations, this project is an opportunity to draw inspiration from existing practices and better integrate groundwater resources in the development of management plans.

More generally, the AQUIFER project aims to improve knowledge of these invisible resources in order to move towards: sustainable management and to move towards involvement of administrations and users of water resources. Its implementation aims to:

- create new synergies at local, national and transnational levels
- to develop common innovative practices and tools
- to facilitate the transfer to the concerned actors, by supporting them in decision-making

## 3. Contacts for the platform

If you want more information on the platform, you can contact:

France - Mylène HACHE | [m.hache@aqua-valley.com](mailto:m.hache@aqua-valley.com)

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This document is completed by the E4.3 – Web platform infographics and documentation.