

EU Green Week 2025 Partner event
ZeroPollution4Water Cluster
Unlocking solutions: 32 Case Studies for Zero-Pollution drinking and
groundwater
WEBINAR
20TH JUNE 2025 ONLINE

Water is fundamental for life, yet pollution threatens drinking water sources and groundwater resilience. The [Zero Pollution4Water Cluster](#), aligned with the **EU Green Deal's Zero Pollution and Circular Economy ambition**, tackles these challenges through research, innovation, and collaboration.

Coordinated by **Water Europe**, the cluster unites seven Horizon Europe funded sister projects: **MAR2PROTECT, NINFA, UPWATER, H2OforAll, intoDBP, SafeCREW, and ToDrinQ**. These projects advance solutions for **managed aquifer recharge, emerging pollutants, digital monitoring, and sustainable treatment methods** to enhance water resilience and public health.

This event will present the new publication “ZeroPollution4Water Cluster: Overview and Inventory of 32 Case Studies in Drinking and Groundwater”, published by the **European Commission REA (March 2025)**. Covering 18 countries, it details **case studies, technological advances, policy recommendations, and real-world applications** aimed at zero-pollution water management.

Launched in 2022, the seven **Horizon Europe-funded projects** focus on **preventing groundwater pollution and securing drinking water quality**. They develop and test **early-warning systems and treatment solutions** to safeguard water from source to supply, addressing climate change impacts.

The **Case Study Inventory** highlights:

- **Current** drinking and groundwater pollution challenges.
- **Innovative mitigation** strategies and project ambitions.
- **Impacts of climate change**, including droughts and floods.
- **Development of monitoring technologies, risk management, and water treatment solutions.**

This inventory fosters **synergies, cooperation, and outreach**, supporting **evidence-based policymaking**. The **Zero Pollution4Water Cluster** contributes to the **Water Framework Directive, Drinking Water Directive, Groundwater Directive**, and EU water resilience strategies.

Key takeaways and expected outcomes:

- **Policy recommendations** for integrating research into EU water strategies.
- **Strengthened partnerships** among researchers, policymakers, and industry.

- **Increased visibility** of the ZeroPollution4Water Cluster, its projects, and related research topics.
- **Future collaboration opportunities** for sustainable water management.

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Draft Agenda

Date: 20-06-2025

Time: from 10:00 to 12:00 (120 Minutes)

Opening Remarks (5')

- Welcome by the European Commission Representative (REA)
- Introduction of the ZP4W Cluster by Water Europe Representative

Keynote Speech: ZeroPollution for water: why it matters (10')

- Speaker: EU DG ENV/DG RTD Representative
 - Theme: Addressing water pollution through EU policies

Launch of the publication ZeroPollution4Water Cluster: the overview and the Inventory of 32 Case Studies in drinking and groundwater (15')

- Speaker: Margarete Remmert-Rieper
 - Overview of the ZeroPollution4Water Cluster's research and its role within the EU Horizon Europe Programme.
 - Key findings and insights from the case studies across 18 countries.

ZeroPollution4Water Cluster: Working Group 6: Research and Innovation to Impact 'Market Update: Brining Technologies from TRL5 to TRL8 and to Market. (30')

- intoDBP: MITO3X® technology platform (adapted for drinking water) to simultaneously remove precursors and disinfect DW. Speaker: Domenico Santoro
- ToDrinQ: Design support Tool for drinking water treatment plants: Speaker: Dirk Vries
- H2OforALL: Central Knowledge Base. Speaker: Maria Del Mar

Experts panel discussion: turning research into action (40')

- Moderator: TBC
- Panelists: Project Coordinators/Representatives from MAR2PROTECT, NINFA, UPWATER, H2OforAll, intoDBP, SafeCREW, ToDrinQ
- Possible discussion topics:
 - Best practices from case studies and lessons learned
 - Innovative solutions: Digital Twins, Nature-Based Solutions, Early-Warning Systems
 - Bridging research, policy, and implementation: How can we ensure uptake?
 - What key steps are needed to bring technologies from TRL5 to TRL8?
 - The role of multi-stakeholder collaboration in achieving Zero-Pollution goals

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Interactive Q&A with the audience (15')

- Open discussion with attendees via live polling and chat
- Addressing key challenges and future opportunities

Closing remarks (5')

- Summary of key takeaways
- Future collaboration opportunities (ZP4Wcluster expansion)
- Call to action for policymakers, researchers, and industry leaders