



Innovative and Sustainable Groundwater Management in the Mediterranean

D7.3 Report on Synergies with Groundwater Initiatives in the Euro- MED Region

VERSION 1.0



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Executive Summary

The overall objective of the InTheMED project is to implement innovative and sustainable management tools and remediation strategies for MED aquifers (inland and coastal) in order to mitigate anthropogenic and climate-change threats by creating new long-lasting spaces of social learning among different interdependent stakeholders, NGOs, and scientific researchers in five field case studies, located at the two shores of the MED basin, namely in Spain, Greece, Portugal, Tunisia, and Turkey.

InTheMED will develop an inclusive process that will establish an ensemble of innovative assessment and management tools and methodologies including a high-resolution monitoring approach, smart modelling, a socio-economic assessment, web-based decision support systems (DSS) and new configurations for governance to establish efficient and sustainable integrated groundwater management in the MED considering both the quantitative and qualitative aspects.

This Deliverable 7.3 aims to report the efforts of the consortium to create and strengthen collaboration with other initiatives related to sustainable groundwater management in the Euro-MED region, with a focus on sister projects funded by the PRIMA Foundation.

1. Introduction

Since the beginning of the InTheMED project there have been an integrated effort of all partners of the consortium to increase the visibility of the project and explore opportunities to improve the InTheMED models and DSS. These objectives have been pursued with the collaboration with other initiatives in the Euro-MED region area at the transnational level (e.g., Horizon2020, WaterJPI, LIFE+, Interreg, ENI-CBC-Med, COSME Programme, SWIM and UN) such as:

- Participation in joint events organized by projects funded by PRIMA foundation;
- Collaboration with other European projects;
- Participation in international conferences.

2. Synergies with Groundwater Initiatives

The InTheMed project has been developing a straight and regular collaboration with sister PRIMA projects related to groundwater management. This bi-directional interaction has resulted in two webinars entitled “Groundwater: facing a common challenge – Water management PRIMA projects”. The webinars were promoted by the following PRIMA projects awarded in 2019: [GOTHAM](#), [RESERVOIR](#), [eGROUNDWATER](#) and InTheMED. The first webinar took place on July 20th¹, 2021 (Figure 1) and the second happened on September 28th, 2022² (Figure 2).



Programme

Groundwater: a common challenge – Webinar Water Management PRIMA projects 2019

CEST Time	Activity
10:00h	Welcome
10:05h	Opening Marco Orlando, PRIMA projects
10:15h	Water Management PRIMA Projects 2019
10:15h	<i>GOTHAM project</i> Damián Sánchez, Cetaqua
10:25h	<i>Reservoir project</i> Claudia Meisina, University of Pavia
10:35h	<i>eGROUNDWATER project</i> Manuel Pulido, Universitat Politècnica de València
10:45h	<i>InTheMED project</i> J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández, Universitat Politècnica de València
11:00h	Thematic Sessions
11:00h	<i>Earth Observation for improving groundwater characterization</i> Claudia Meisina, University of Pavia
11:20h	<i>Different modelling approaches to infer the quantitative and chemical groundwater status</i> J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández, Universitat Politècnica de València
11:40h	<i>Citizen Science and ICT providing groundwater data</i> Manuel Pulido, Universitat Politècnica de València
12:00h	<i>Groundwater Governance models to guarantee the sustainability of water resources in the Mediterranean</i> Damián Sánchez, Cetaqua
12:20h	Closing

Organised by: **CETAQUA** WATER TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

With the support:







Figure 1. Program of the 1st webinar “Groundwater: facing a common challenge – Webinar water management PRIMA projects”

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u54qlHcmhOE>

² <https://www.cetaqua.com/en/groundwater-webinar/>



Webinar

Groundwater: Facing a common challenge 2022

Webinar Water Management PRIMA projects

September, 28 - 10:00 - 12:30h CEST - Online

Organised by: **CETAQUA** WATER TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

With the support:

- PRIMA
- Instituto de Ingeniería del Agua y Medio Ambiente
- UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA
- GOTHAM
- eGROUND WATER
- IN THE MED
- RESERVOIR

Figure 2. Program of the 2nd webinar “Groundwater: facing a common challenge – Webinar water management PRIMA projects”

Additionally, there has been a regular interaction with the [Sustain-COAST](#) PRIMA project, that resulted in a common session jointly organized with [MEDSAL](#) PRIMA project at the 7th IAHR Congress meeting in Athens³ under the topic “*Mediterranean coastal aquifers under climate change*”. The synergy between InTheMED and Sustain-COAST projects resulted also in two contributions at ISARM2021 2nd International Conference⁴ on “*Transboundary Aquifers: Challenges and the Way Forward*”, held online from December 6th - 9th December 2021.

The Spanish teams of the PRIMA projects eGROUNDWATER and InTheMED have been working in close collaboration not only to exchange gathered information about the case study but also in the organization of internal meetings and of the first Spanish living lab, held on the 4th of March 2022 in Requena city (Figure 3). The synergy between InTheMED and eGROUNDWATER projects resulted also in one contribution at the 7th IAHR Congress meeting in Athens and one contribution in Sustain Valencia 2022⁵.

³ https://www.erasmus.gr/microsites/1227/special-sessions_9

⁴ <https://isarm2021.org>

⁵ <https://sustain2022.webs.upv.es>



Figure 3. Group photo of the first Spanish living lab organized by the PRIMA projects InTheMED and eGROUNDWATER.

The German partner has been carrying work in collaboration with Horizon 2020 project “*Global gravity-based groundwater product*” (GP3)⁶. There will be a presentation about the preliminary results of this collaboration in Sustain Valencia 2022.

The results of the project have also been shared internally at the different host institutions with seminars targeting students at different levels (BSc., MSc. and Ph.D.) related to geosciences and subsurface modelling and characterization. For example, a member of the Portuguese team was invited for a seminar at the University of Potsdam targeted for students of the MSc. in Geoecology and there have been a regular exchange of students between the Italian and Spanish partner.

3. Final Remarks

During the first 24 months of the project, there have been a series of regular interactions and initiatives with other PRIMA projects related to groundwater management. These efforts have been mainly led by the Greek and Spanish partners.

⁶ <https://www.g3p.eu/>



For the remaining of the project, we anticipate a strengthening of these collaborations and the creation of new ones with recently approved PRIMA and Horizon Europe projects.