

PROJECT URBAN_WFTP

INTRODUCTION OF WATER FOOTPRINT (WFTP) APPROACH IN URBAN AREA TO MONITOR, EVALUATE AND IMPROVE THE WATER USE

Nine European organizations from five European countries have just launched the project URBAN_WFTP - "Introduction of Water Footprint (WFTP) approach in urban area to monitor, evaluate and improve the water use". It is a CENTRAL EUROPE project that focuses on local water management in urbanized areas with an open potential suitable for improving currently used technologies and integrating innovative tools for monitoring and managing citizens water use, water networks and waste water's treatment systems. In order to achieve this goal, the Water Footprint approach represents a chance for a better water management and use of water.

This new Water Footprint approach will be tested in three urban areas, called Urban Water Future Labs (Italy, Austria and Poland) in order to assess the effectiveness of the approach, to compare the achieved results and create a Central Europe area with special attention to urban water management.

The project will also enable municipalities to better define environmentally friendly policies, plans and strategies by quantifying the environmental benefits of the introduction of new technologies and activities.

Water Foot Print

Water Footprint is a multidimensional indicator, showing water consumption volumes (like source and polluted water) by type of pollution; all components of a total water footprint are specified geographically and temporally. Water Footprint indicator assess and represent three aspects of water use called blue water, green water, gray water. Blue water accounts for ground and surface water consumed (not returned to the same water basin in the same conditions); Green water accounts for rain water and its use and management; Gray water accounts for the volume of water polluted (e.g. from waste water discharge). Water Footprint in other words gives spatiotemporally explicit information regarding how water is appropriated for various human purposes.

Objectives

The URBAN WFTP project, focused on water management in urban areas, promotes the Water Footprint approach in a participatory manner through Central Europe regions. The core objective of the project is to develop a transnational approach for evaluating the water use and the conservation of water resources in urban areas. Due to the characteristics of central Europe regions several aspects of water management will be considered.

The joint project activities support:

- environmentally friendly activities in urban areas
- environmentally friendly technologies
- exchange of experience on the water management issues
- promotion of transnational incentives for water eco-innovations

Project Start Date: November 2012

Project End Date: November 2014

Duration: 25 months

Partnership:

- LP: Department of Industrial Engineering of the University of Padova (Veneto, IT)
- PP2: Giacomo Rumor Foundation Veneto Productivity Center (Veneto, IT)
- PP3: MUNICIPALITY OF VICENZA (Veneto, IT)
- PP4: Withdrawn on 12th of October
- PP5: Unit for Environmental Engineering, University of Innsbruck (Tirol, AT)
- PP6: alpS Ltd. (Tirol, AT)
- PP7: INNOVA Észak-Alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency Nonprofit Ltd. (Eszak-Alfold, HU)
- PP8: Chamber of Commerce and Industry for Nuremberg and Central Franconia (Mittelfranken, DE)
- PP9: Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences (Dolnoslaskie, PL)
- PP10: Municipal Water and Sewage Company S.A. in Wrocław (Dolnoslaskie, PL)

Work package:

The project divided into six work packages:

- WP1: Project management and coordination (Responsible partner: LP)
- WP2: Communication, knowledge management and dissemination (Responsible partner: PP2)
- WP3: "Water use and management" baseline assessment according to Water Footprint approach and sharing of results among partners (Responsible partner: PP9)
- WP4: Activation of three URBAN WATER FOOTPRINT LABs (UWFL) and implementation of WFTP approaches (Responsible partner: PP6)
- WP5: Set water use and management improvement plans in the three URBAN WATER FOOTPRINT LABs (UWFL) (Responsible partner: PP7)
- WP6: Sustainability demonstration, training activity and assistance for replication actions (Responsible partner: PP2)

Contact

Lead partner: Department of Industrial Engineering of the University of Padova (Veneto, IT)

Contact person: Prof. Antonio Scipioni

Address: Via Gradenigo 6/A 35131 Padova - Italy

Telephone: 0039 049 8275536

Fax: 0039 049 8275785

E-mail: scipioni@unipd.it

Detailed information on the project

[http://www.central2013.eu/nc/central-projects/approved-projects/funded-projects/?tx_fundedprojects_pi1\[project\]=136](http://www.central2013.eu/nc/central-projects/approved-projects/funded-projects/?tx_fundedprojects_pi1[project]=136)