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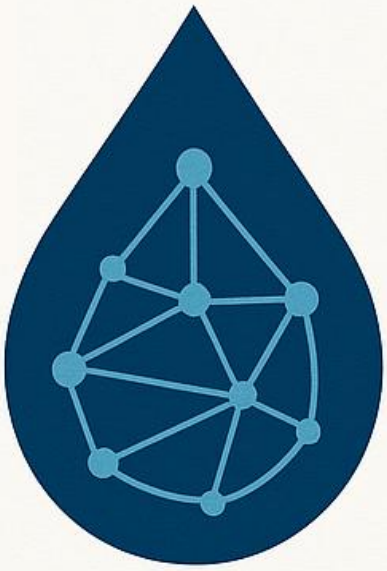
PRIMA

Global Water Partnership Mediterranean

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Webinar on

Digitalization in practice: Country examples from the Mediterranean region



Tuesday, 1st December, 2026
10:00-12:00 CET
ONLINE

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WEBINAR ON
Digitalization in Practice
Country examples from the Mediterranean region

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10:00-12:00 CET
In English

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Zoom link will be shared upon registering

Background:

Digitalization for natural resources management refers to the strategic adoption and integration of conventional and innovative digital policies and technologies in sectoral and cross-sectoral domains that contribute to sustainable development objectives. Digital solutions, like Artificial Intelligence (AI), including Machine Learning (ML) can provide substantial benefits to water management as well as to the management of interconnected systems of Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) in a Nexus approach applied at the Mediterranean Source to Sea continuum. Digital transformation for introducing such solutions at all levels involves, among others, leveraging advanced digital tools, data analytics, innovative technologies and related governance and managerial approaches to optimize the efficiency, sustainability, and resilience of related resources.

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) agenda prioritizes the Digital Transformation of the Water Sector, with a strong emphasis on Strategic Planning and Capacity Development. Closely aligned with the objectives of the 2nd UfM Ministerial on Water (Rome, September 2026), this strategic initiative seeks to leverage digitalization technologies and innovative solutions to enhance water management, improve operational efficiency, and foster greater resilience in water resources. Based on these, the UfM Regional Platform on Water (UfM RPW) approved at its 15th Meeting (5-6 November 2025, Barcelona), the related Strategic Framework Report and adopted its recommendations.

Furthermore, a regional consultation process is ongoing, aiming to promote digital transformation for advancing WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean, particularly under evolving climate change impacts. After defining the consultation content and establishing the core cooperation team (February 2024/Tunis), the process included so far three Regional Roundtables (Lisbon/June 2024, Malta/February 2025, and Rome/March 2026). The consultation includes the identification of related Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT). Based on these, recommendations are being developed for promoting digital transformation as a contribution to the upcoming Action Framework of the 'Strategy

on WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean Source to Sea continuum'.[1] This science-driven consultation involves regional and national decision makers and stakeholders in a Living Lab approach. It is facilitated by the PRIMA ACQUAOUNT, TALANOA-WATER and H2020 TRANSCEND projects, in service of and with the support of UfM and other institutional partners. The process is also supported by the WEFE Nexus Community of Practice in the Mediterranean that is facilitated by the PRIMA WEFE4Med project.

In this context, this webinar will present concrete examples from water administrations and utilities of the region that use digital tools to reduce water losses, improve monitoring or support better decisions, and discuss what made them work and how other countries could apply them. The examples were proposed by Member States in response to the UfM call for country examples sent to the national water focal points in October 2026. It will also align the related technical work lines and regional consultations by providing updates and advancing steps towards establishing a data- and analytics-focused thematic work line within the WEFE Nexus Community of Practice.

The webinar is part of a series of consultations and capacity-building activities, following up on the webinar on "AI-driven digitalization solutions for Water and WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean" organized on 30 June 2025, the webinar on "AI-Driven Digital Water Systems: Strategic Digital Governance and Policy in a WEFE Nexus approach" organized on 11 March 2026, the webinar on "AI-Driven Digital Water Systems: AI-driven analytics and decision support" organized on 2 July 2026, and most recently "Emerging Technologies for the Water Sector" organized on 8 September 2026. It is the last webinar of the series.

Objectives:

- Present concrete examples from Mediterranean countries where digital tools improved water resources management or water services, from registers of water permits and basin information systems to the monitoring of networks and the reduction of water losses.
- Show how water administrations and utilities of the region set up these projects: data, institutional arrangements, partners and skills.
- Discuss the main barriers and how other countries could adapt these solutions.

Expected webinar outcomes:

- Participants learn about concrete country examples from the region, covering registers of water permits, national and transboundary water information systems, smart water management at basin level, remote monitoring of networks and the reduction of water losses.
- Participants understand the practical conditions behind these examples: data, institutional set-up, partners, financing and skills.

[1] The Strategy was adopted by the 15th Meeting of the UfM Regional Platform on Water (5-6 November 2025, Barcelona), and is part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD, 2026-2035) Flagship Initiative which was adopted at the 24th Conference of the Parties (COP24) of the Barcelona Convention (2-5 December 2025, Cairo)

- Participants identify examples and contacts for exchanges with other countries of the region.

Participants:
Representatives from Mediterranean member states, including:

- National water and other (energy, agriculture, environment, international cooperation) ministries and related regulatory authorities
- Water utilities and basin agencies
- ICT and cybersecurity departments
- Academic and research institutions
- Regional and national stakeholder organizations and practitioners
- Private sector entities involved in water management and technology
- Development partners and donors

Agenda **All times presented are in Central European Time**	
Time (CET)	**Session/Topic** ***Presentations will be followed by a short Q&A. For time efficiency, participants are requested to share their questions in the chat***
10:00-10:10	**Institutional Opening session** • Digitalization in practice: what water administrations and utilities of the Mediterranean are already doing
10:10-10:15	**Introduction to the country examples** ***Speaker: Dr. Georg Petersen, HYDROC GmbH*** • How the examples were collected, and what to look for: results, conditions for success and barriers
10:15-10:30	**Country example - Albania: digitalization of the National Register of Water Permits and Authorizations** ***Speaker: Andrea Lekgjika, Water Resources Management Agency (AMBU)*** • A national register of water permits and authorizations, populated and updated by the River Basin Administration Offices • Nine datasets covering hydropower, irrigation, aquaculture, industrial uses, water bottling, thermal uses, construction along riverbanks, extraction of inert materials and other water uses • Data made available through the national ASIG Geoportal *Followed by a short Q&A with the speaker*

10:30-10:45	**Country example - Montenegro: Water Information System (WIS) and geoportal of the Water Administration** ***Speakers: Milo Radović, Head of Department for Water Management in the Danube and Adriatic Basins, Water Administration of Montenegro, and Ilija Šofranac, technical expert*** • A national Water Information System (WIS), accessible to users through the geoportal wis.gov.me • A digital tool for managing and accessing water-related data • What keeps such a system useful: regular data updates and further development *Followed by a short Q&A with the speakers*
10:45-11:00	**Country example - Morocco: Smart Water Management Project in the Tensift Basin** ***Speaker: Younes Laabdi, Head of the Water Resources Management and Water Information System Division, Directorate of Water Research and Planning, Ministry of Equipment and Water*** • Technical diagnosis of the hydraulic infrastructure and monitoring systems • Smart sensors, real-time telemetry, a central digital platform and predictive models • Aim: optimize water allocation, reduce losses and improve coordination among water institutions *Followed by a short Q&A with the speaker*
11:00-11:15	**Transboundary example - Drin River Basin: Information Management System (IMS) of the GEF Drin Project** ***Speaker: Novak Cadjenovic, Senior Program Officer, Head of the Podgorica Office, Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med)*** • An information management system developed with the support of the GEF Drin Project, for the Drin riparian countries to collect, store and share data and information • Hydrological and water pollution data, GIS maps and tools such as flow statistics and drought indices • Used in the daily work of the ministries managing the Drin sub-basins, and by follow-up projects on flood risk *Followed by a short Q&A with the speaker*
11:15-11:30	**Country example - Palestine: online monitoring system for bulk water supply and distribution in the West Bank** ***Speaker: Dr. Muath Abu Sadah, Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)*** • A project to establish real-time monitoring of flows and pressure across the bulk water supply network, to identify leaks and reduce non-revenue water • Central database and mobile application, to be integrated with the existing billing, GIS and SCADA systems *Followed by a short Q&A with the speaker*

11:30-12:00	**Discussion, conclusions and next steps** ***Moderator: Dr. Georg Petersen, HYDROC GmbH*** • Questions from participants to all speakers • Synthesis of key take-aways from the country examples • Closing remarks and next steps of the UfM work on the digitalization of the water sector