

Interreg
Sudoe



Co-funded by
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SudWaMa



SudWaMa

*Sustainable Water Management
for a Resilient Southern Europe*



FACULDADE DE
CIÊNCIAS E TECNOLOGIA
UNIVERSIDADE DE
COIMBRA

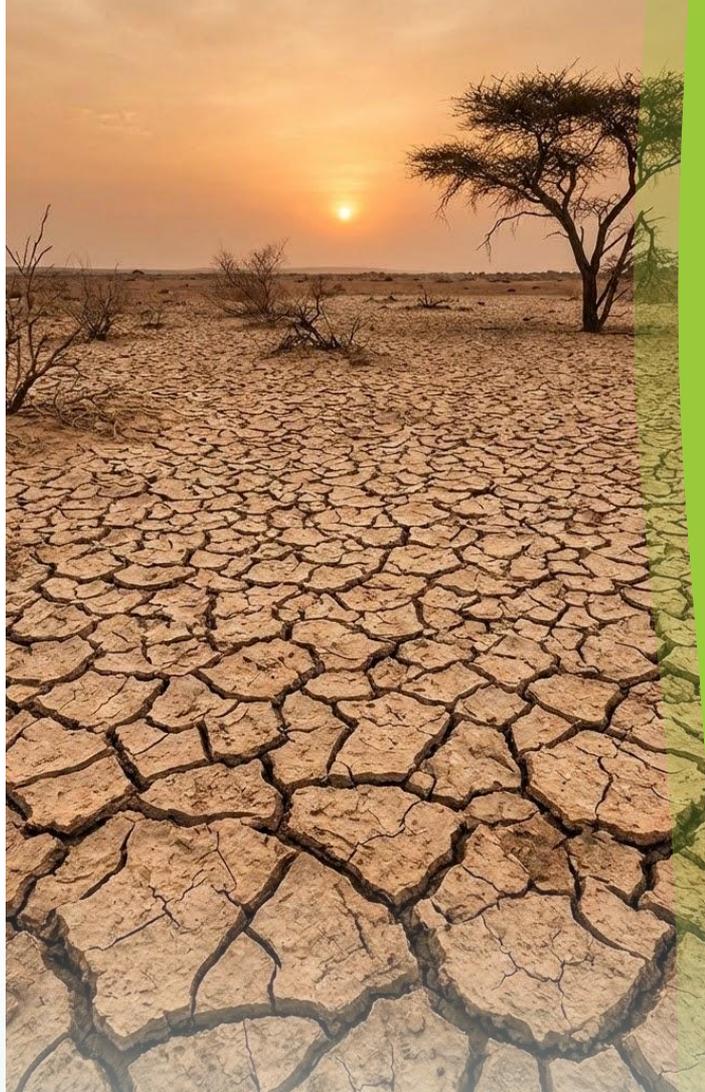




A structural water crisis

Water scarcity and water quality degradation are no longer cyclical threats, but structural challenges for the SUDOE region, placing growing stress on existing water infrastructures and natural water bodies.

- ✓ **Climate Change:** Prolonged droughts & extreme weather events.
- ✓ **Urbanization:** Concentrated urban water consumption.
- ✓ **Population:** Increasing demographic pressure.





Our Linear 'Extract-Use-Discharge' Model is No Longer Viable



Fragmented Regulatory Frameworks

Creates uncertainty and limits the replication of innovative solutions.



Divided Institutional Governance

Leads to complexity and significant coordination challenges.



Unsuited for Scarcity

Fundamentally incompatible with resource scarcity and climate uncertainty.



Technical Innovation Alone is Insufficient for Systemic Change

Sustainable water management requires more than technology; it demands supportive regulatory environments, informed users, and strong cooperation across society.



Lack of information

Hinders user trust in safe, efficient water reuse solutions.



Cultural perceptions

Pre-existing biases against reused water can stall adoption.



Insufficient User Involvement

Top-down solutions often fail without co-creation and engagement.



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*A transnational and
collaborative response*



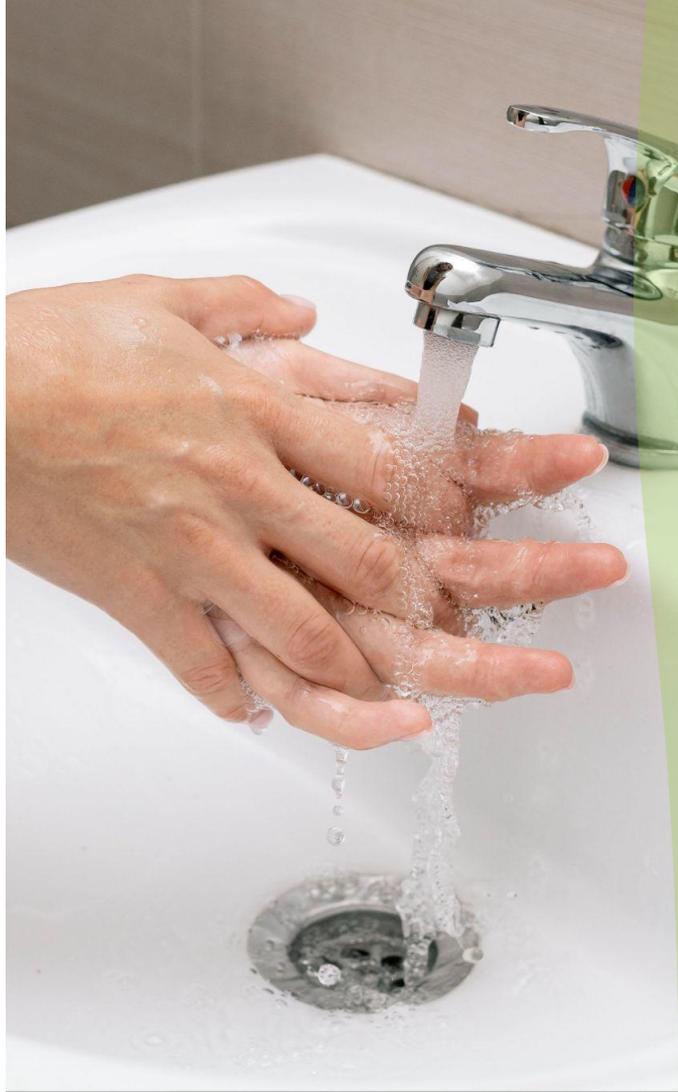
SudWaMa is a European cooperation project designed to jointly develop, test, and promote circular water management solutions, addressing the critical environmental and societal challenges faced by Southern Europe.

- **Programme:** Interreg SUDOE.
- **Partnership:** Transnational cooperation between Spain, France, and Portugal.
- **Timeline:** 2025-2028.
- **Focus Area:** Institutional buildings as living laboratories for change.

A paradigm shift toward circular water resilience

The project aims to demonstrate that circular water management is not only technically feasible, but also economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally beneficial.

- 🌿 **Maximize Efficiency:** Drastically reduce freshwater consumption.
- ♻️ **Enable Reuse:** Diversify water sources through safe reuse systems.
- 🛡️ **Build Resilience:** Enhance urban water systems against climate variability.





An integrated framework for holistic impact



Technical Innovation & Pilot Demonstration

Testing real solutions in
real-world settings to generate
robust evidence.



Policy & Strategy Development

Analyzing barriers and co-creating
transnational strategies and
regional action plans.



Awareness, Education & Participation

Engaging users and stakeholders to
foster social acceptance and
behavioural change.

“This integrated structure ensures continuous feedback between strategic planning, technical implementation, and stakeholder engagement”.

PILLAR 1

Innovation in action

*Testing and validating solutions in
real-world institutional buildings*

Technologies under demonstration:

- **Rainwater harvesting systems**
- **Greywater reuse and recycling**
- **On-site wastewater treatment and reuse**

Each pilot includes advanced monitoring to assess water consumption, quality and performance, providing concrete evidence to support replication.





PILLAR 2

Policy & Strategy

From fragmented rules to aligned transnational action

- **Analyze.** Identify and map regulatory and policy barriers across the SUDOE territory.
- **Co-create.** Develop a common transnational strategy for circular water management with key stakeholders.
- **Deliver.** Produce regional action plans and detailed implementation guidelines for public authorities.

Objective: To support better policy alignment, improve coordination, and enable evidence-based decision-making.



PILLAR 3

Social dimension: Placing people at the core

Building trust and empowering users for lasting change

The success of circular water management depends on social acceptance. SudWaMa develops tailored participatory methodologies adapted to the socio-cultural context of each territory.

- **Workshops & Consultations:** Actively involving users and professionals in co-design.
- **Public Events:** Raising broad awareness of water challenges and solutions.
- **Educational tools:** Creating resources to increase understanding and build trust in innovative water systems.



SudWaMa

Placing people at the core



A collaborative ecosystem is our cornerstone



Public Authorities & Policymakers

Shaping regulatory
environments



End Users & Citizens

Driving behavioural change and
social acceptance



Water Operators & Infrastructure Managers

Integrating validated solutions into
existing systems



Universities & Research Centres

Providing scientific expertise and
knowledge transfer



From Project Outputs to Lasting Systemic Impact

Tangible results:

- ✓ A joint transnational strategy for circular water management.
- ✓ Validated technical solutions with detailed performance data.
- ✓ Regional action plans and implementation guidelines.
- ✓ Educational materials and capacity-building resources.

Long-term impact:

- ✓ Improved policy alignment and governance across the SUDOE area.
- ✓ More resilient and sustainable urban water systems.
- ✓ The SUDOE area positioned as a reference region for water innovation in Europe.



The future of water is a shared responsibility

SudWaMa invites institutions, policymakers, professionals and citizens to work together towards resilient, efficient and sustainable water systems that can meet the challenges of the future

Join us!



Shape the future
of water



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SudWaMa

Sustainable Water Management

A transnational cooperation project bringing together partners from Spain, France and Portugal.
Co-financed by the European Union through the Interreg SUDOE Programme.