



PRESS RELEASE LAUNCH OF THE AWARD PROJECT!

16 February 2024

In light of escalating water scarcity and the far-reaching impacts of climate change, The EU funded AWARD project acknowledges the pressing need to actively involve society, science, and policy in the creation of informed knowledge and strategic water planning.

To mark its official start, a **Kick-off Meeting (KoM) will be held in Paris on February 27 and 28**. It will be inaugurated with a welcome address by Mr. Eric Tardieu, Director General of the International Office for Water, setting the tone for the collaborative efforts ahead.

Distinguished speakers from both European and national levels will share their insights and perspectives, emphasizing the importance of innovative water resource management in the face of a changing climate:

- Ms. Jimena ARANGO-MONTANEZ, AWARD Project Officer, European Commission
- Mr. Bertrand VALLET, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission
- Ms. Marie-Laure METAYER, Water and Biodiversity Directorate, French Ministry of Ecological Transition

A dedicated session on "Implementation-related Challenges Synergy Group" will feature presentations from sister projects under the same Horizon Europe call providing an overview of collaborative efforts and insights into shared challenges and solutions.

The AWARD project represents a collective commitment to sustainable water practices, bringing together expertise from various sectors to tackle one of the most pressing challenges of our time.

Consortium: Coordinated by the International Office for Water France, the AWARD project unites 14 beneficiaries and 2 affiliated entities across 7 European countries. This collaborative effort underscores the shared commitment to address the critical issues surrounding water resources and climate resilience.