

Aqua Publica Europea

The European Association of Public Water Operators





About Aqua Publica Europea

- 61 members (public water operators and their associations)
- 70M citizens served, 8+ billion € aggregated turnover

APE mission



Promoting public water management

Platform for mutual learning





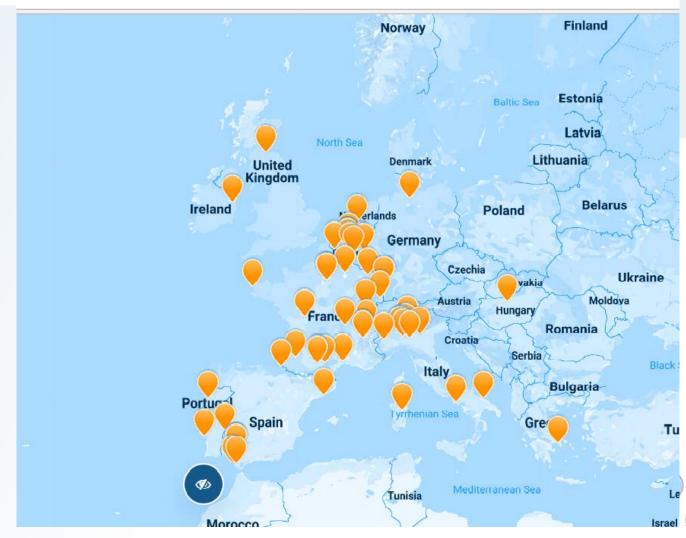
A growing organisation







A growing organisation







Structure

- Management Board → 17 members, each country represented (3/4 meetings per year)
- Executive Board [Bureau] -> President, Vice-President,
 + 4 other Board members (regular exchanges)
- ❖ General Meeting → All members (once per year)
- 5 Working Groups (variable meeting frequency, +/- once a year)
- Secretariat (3 persons staff)





APE in EU and International Dialogues

- EU, Member of:
 - Commission Expert Group on the <u>Implementation of the Drinking Water Directive</u>
 - Commission Expert Group on the Implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
 - Steering Committee of the <u>European Innovation Partnership</u> on Water
 - Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Benchmarking Water Quality and Services
- Member of the <u>OECD Water Governance Initiative</u>
- Member of the UN Habitat Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance (GWOPA)



Past Activities

Water and Transparency

Seminar "Information in the Water Sector", Brussels (2018)

Water and Environment

- Publication "Public Water Operators' commitment to water resources protection"
- Seminar "Water and Climate", in Paris, during COP21 (2015)
- Seminar "Water and Food", in Milan, during EXPO (2015)

Tariffs and Economic aspects

- Publication "Water Affordability in Europe"
- Seminar "Water Affordability in Europe" (Brussels, 2016)
- Seminar on "Setting the right price" (Brussels, 2014)

Benchmarking and Performance

- MoU with European Benchmarking Cooperation
- Comparative review of members' "Service Charters"





Past Activities

Water and Governance

- Contribution to OECD "water governance principles"
- Contribution to OECD "water governance in cities"

Innovation

- Partner in EU FP7-funded project "WaterPiPP" (innovationoriented public procurement in the water sector)
- Horizon 2020 project on "smart metering" (8 APE operators, 4 bln €, started January 2017)

International Cooperation

Seminar on "Public-public Partnerships for the Right to Water" (with the Commission and UNSGAB Chair, Berlin, 2015)





APE Platform

... Promoting knowledge sharing and direct exchanges among members to address common management challenges ...

- Working Groups
- Thematic Sessions
- Water Erasmus Initiative





Working Groups

- ➤ WG 1 "Financing and Tariffs" → price elasticity / innovative financing mechanisms
- WG 2 "Performance" → Users' satisfaction surveys (results and methodology comparison)
- ➤ WG 3 "Communication" → Joint procurement of water flasks / innovative tab water campaigns comparison
- ➤ WG 4 "Innovation" → Smart Metering / Circular Economy / Energy efficiency
- WG 5 "International Cooperation" → access to water and public-public partnerships



Thematic Sessions

- One (or half) day meeting dedicated to address one specific management issue
- Experts from APE members are invited to present bestpractices/ongoing projects
- Experts are selected through a 'call for interest' within APE member
- Topic is selected by the "hosting operator"





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Water Erasmus is....

Promoting knowledge-sharing among APE members through short-term staff-exchanges

How it works

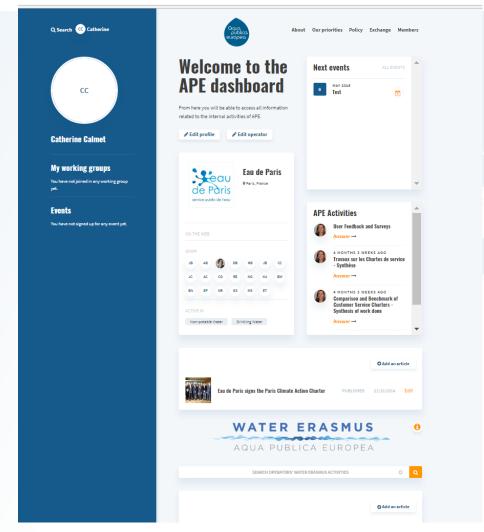
- Through the online platform (APE website intranet), operators can search for other members' priority projects/best practices, and propose a "staff-exchange" in areas of common interest.
- Form, content and duration of the exchange is decided by the involved partners. Travel and accommodation costs are covered by the "visting operator".
- The APE Secretariat supports the "matching" between members by facilitating contact exchange among partners and by organising "match-making events".



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- First Water Erasmus exchange took place between CAP Holding (Milan) and Eau de Paris (Paris)
 - A group of two people from CAP visited EdP in November 2017, and a group of two people from EdP visited CAP in February 2018 (3-4 days for each visit)
 - Main topics addressed/exchanged: Water Safety Plan / Innovative drinking water treatment processes / Water Resources Protection initiatives
- Next Exchanges scheduled:
 - Scottish Water/Eau de Paris → public fountains
 - Aquawal (Wallonia)/SMAT (Turin) → Emerging pollutants





Further questions?

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