

Communication and Dissemination Strategy and Plan – v2

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Deliverable D6.1



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Abstract (for dissemination, 100 words)	The RECONNECT Communication and Dissemination Strategy and Plan outlines a preliminary and systematic approach to outreach and communicating with the various target audiences the actions to be implemented and uptaken through tailored activities and appropriate communications mix. These communication and dissemination activities (WP6) will run from month 1 to month 60. Updated versions of the C&D Strategy and Plan are issued along the project, and evidence od results and impacts provided in the deliverables as well as in the project reports.
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Executive Summary

The RECONNECT Communication and Dissemination Strategy and Plan, issued at the very beginning of the project, outlines a systematic approach to outreach and communicating with the various target audiences the actions to be implemented and taken up through tailored activities and appropriate communications mix. These communication and dissemination activities will run under Work Package 6 from the beginning to project end.

The purpose of the document is to maintain a consistent and uniform way of communicating about the project. The communication and dissemination strategy and plan will ultimately be used to guide partner outreach to all relevant target audiences, or “actors of change”, to influence implementation of large-scale NBS in accordance to relevant EU, International, National and Local policies and at different governmental levels.

The communication and dissemination strategy and plan, defined at the project beginning, is going to be updated along the project lifetime into the Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan for outreach. This series of deliverables is intended to guide project participants’ communication and dissemination, both internally and externally, in view of maximising dissemination and exploitation of RECONNECT outreach and outputs when available. It should be considered a reference for communication products related to the project and, more widely, for all communications, including the way partners communicate with all internal and external stakeholders and audiences and engage them.

The RECONNECT communication and dissemination began with creating original content to support the RECONNECT partners both “online” through the project website and partner websites and “offline” at meetings, events and conferences using printed materials and presentations. The RECONNECT partners are hence guided in communicating the project through a mixture of direct and indirect channels, and disseminating information based on agreed outreach timelines, what their involvement or engagement with the project is, and what media they typically consume.

This strategy and plan is based on building blocks that underpin delivery under Communication and Dissemination, led by clear objectives around communication consistency, collaborative awareness raising, targeted audience outreach and tailored products for multiple communication and dissemination channels for future exploitation.

These Communication and Dissemination activities will continue to be built upon, exploring further linkages with other sister EU projects and NbS related work in the research, practice and policy areas in next stages of the project. The outlined logframe further clarifies the target areas for communication activities and helps to monitor and evaluate impacts. This strategy and plan clearly outline directly engagement with the other Work Package in RECONNECT, collaboratively building joint outputs and outcomes to demonstrate the effectiveness and sustainability of NbS for reducing hydro-metrological risk.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Project summary

RECONNECT aims to rapidly enhance the European reference framework on Nature Based Solutions (NBS) for hydro-meteorological risk reduction by demonstrating, referencing, upscaling and exploiting large-scale NBS in rural and natural areas. In an era of Europe's natural capital being under increased cumulative pressure from intensive agriculture, fisheries and forestry, and urban sprawl, **RECONNECT will stimulate a new culture of co-creation of 'land use planning' that links the reduction of hydro-meteorological risk with local and regional development objectives in a sustainable and financially viable way.** To do that, RECONNECT draws upon a network of carefully selected Demonstrators and Collaborators that cover a wide and diverse range of local conditions, geographic characteristics, institutional/governance structures and social/cultural settings to successfully upscale NBS throughout Europe and Internationally. To achieve these ambitious goals, the RECONNECT consortium brings together an unprecedented transdisciplinary partnership of researchers, industrial partners (SMEs and large consultancies) and authorities/agencies at local and watershed/regional level fully dedicated to achieve the desired outcomes of the project.

1.2. Project objectives

The overall objectives of RECONNECT are outlined below:

- RECONNECT will develop a **holistic ecosystem-based framework enabling cross-sectoral/transdisciplinary analyses and evaluation** to advance the knowledge of NBS in the context of hydro-meteorological risk reduction focusing on floods, storm surges, landslides and droughts.
- RECONNECT will form the basis for the **proof-of-concept regarding large scale NBS demonstrations** by co-creating new cases and connecting to existing implemented reference cases and sharing experiences with European and International collaborators.
- Through a consolidated evidence-base on co-creation processes, performance standards, cost-effectiveness, operational requirements, life cycle costs and the multiple benefits of NBS, RECONNECT will **identify and assess barriers related to social and cultural acceptance of NBS and policy regulatory frameworks** and propose ways to overcome them. In addition, RECONNECT **liaises and/or clusters with other relevant projects and initiatives.**
- RECONNECT will **promote and pursue innovation in relation to evaluation, selection, design, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of NBS** (i.e. standardisation) and also in relation to their co-creation through social innovation and active participation of stakeholders.
- RECONNECT will **enable replication and up-scaling of NBS** through the **RECONNECT roadmap in different contexts** within the RECONNECT network of cases taking into account market dynamics, knowledge creation, institutional entrepreneurship and brokerage. RECONNECT will assess its replication potential and expand the knowledge of long-term

sustainable data platforms considering existing initiatives and alternative options (e.g. OPPLA).

1.3. Who is in the consortium?

The RECONNECT consortium consists of 36 partners from 18 countries including the EU Member States (Netherlands, Germany, UK, Italy, France, Denmark, Croatia, Austria, Spain, Belgium, Poland, Bulgaria, and Sweden), associated countries (Switzerland, Serbia) and the international partners (Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand). It consists of 6 Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), 5 Industrial partners, 9 Research and Development (R&D) Organisations, 8 Universities, and 9 Governmental/Regional/Public Body organisations.

1.4. The demonstrators and collaborators network

RECONNECT draws upon a network of carefully selected Demonstrators (A and B) and Collaborators (EU and International) that cover a wide and diverse range of local conditions, geographic characteristics, institutional/governance structures and social/cultural settings to successfully upscale NBS throughout Europe and Internationally.

- RECONNECT Demonstrator Type A are cases of large-scale Nature-Based Solutions to be fully created and validated during the RECONNECT project lifetime. They are located in Germany, Denmark, Spain and Italy.
- RECONNECT Demonstrator Type B are existing Nature-Based Solutions to be monitored, evaluated and validated by RECONNECT. They are located in The Netherlands, Austria, Denmark, Switzerland, France.
- Finally, RECONNECT performs pre-feasibility studies and knowledge sharing activities with a network of European and international collaborators. They are 5 in EU (Bulgaria, Poland, Croatia and 2 in Serbia), and 13 International (Thailand, 2 in Taiwan, Brazil, Malaysia, China, Myanmar, Australia, 2 in USA, Peru, Colombia-Magdalena, Colombia, The Caribbean).

The RECONNECT demonstrators and collaborators have been carefully selected out of a poll of the examined sites, particularly affected by hydro-meteo risks, to ensure the excellence of the NBS related activities but also to maximise the upscaling potential of the available knowledge and experience from the project to European and International Collaborators via their networks or projects.

Interactive collection of information is planned to take place in different phases of the project, including:

- Definition of KPIs (Water, Nature, People) to measure NBS effectiveness in each demonstrator case (WP3);
- Stakeholders' mapping and assessment of respective interactions (WP2);

- Twinning of Demonstrators having similar problems and approaches to hydro-meteo risks (WP2)
- Site visits by RECONNECT partners and invited experts (usually on the occasion of RECONNECT General Assemblies)
- National workshops for Demonstrators and Collaborators aimed to establish a stakeholders' group and create awareness on NBS potential and applicability (T6.6)

Once the relevant information is collected and put in order, an interactive application showing maps and characteristics of all types and locations of selected NBS is designed, and linked to the RECONNECT main web site (www.reconnect.eu).

1.5. Project outputs

The high-level outputs of the project will benefit a wide array of users beyond the project partners and the scientific community (to whom most project deliverables are relevant (see section 3) as follows:

- Delivery of a “ready to use” holistic ecosystem-based framework to support co-creation and collaboration around using NBS effectively for reducing hydro-climatic risk. This framework also integrates monitoring and evaluation which is essential for developing the evidence base for NBS.
- Demonstration of the application of NBS along with lessons learned from the demonstrators and collaborators showcasing their co-creation approach to ‘land use planning’ that links the reduction of hydro-meteorological risk with local and regional development objectives in a sustainable and financially viable way.
- The RECONNECT Services Platform which will provide real-time information about the performance of NBS. It will also provide the evidence base to facilitate co-creation and enable replication and upscaling of NBS.
- A catalogue of practices generated from Demonstrator and Collaborator cases and used for dissemination, communication and knowledge sharing activities.
- Synthesis of lessons learned through RECONNECT and production of a comprehensive report to the EC to be used as a **roadmap** for NBS in Europe and beyond. This supports the promotion of NBS and enables the uptake of upscaling and mainstreaming of large scale NBS through innovative investment strategies and business models.
- Guidance to mainstream large NBS including overcoming barriers, design standards for NBS, and business approaches to support financial viability.
- Training modules and a MOOC.

2. Building Blocks of the Communication and Dissemination Strategy and Plan

The Communication and Dissemination Strategy and Plan is made of seven building blocks which are further elaborated in the following sections of this document:

- 1) Identification of Expected Impacts (EIs) and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of the RECONNECT project in relation to communication and dissemination activities (section 2.1).
- 2) Communication and dissemination goals and objectives (section 2.2 and 3.1).
- 3) Identification of the connections to Nature Based Solutions initiatives (EU and beyond) to support communication of the project and dissemination of results (section 3.2).
- 4) Identification of target audiences (section 3.3) and project key messages (section 3.4).
- 5) Setting the project's visual identity (section 3.6).
- 6) Identification of tools to reach out to the target audiences (section 4.2).
- 7) Setting out processes for measuring the success of communication and dissemination activities (section 4.4 and 4.6)

As a first step, it is useful to understand what is expected and understood by communication and dissemination according to the European Commission which is outlined in Table 1.

Communication is about promoting your project, its themes and the challenges it is trying to solve. Communication means taking strategic and targeted measures for promoting the action itself and its results to a multitude of audiences, including the media and the public, and possibly engaging in a two-way exchange. This two-way exchange allows your audiences to get more invested in the project, the consortium and the issue it is trying to tackle. Science is no longer confined to laboratories but is being integrated into society, helped by effective communication. The aim is to reach out to society as a whole and in particular to some specific audience while demonstrating how EU funding contributes to tackling societal challenges.

Dissemination is the disclosure of the results of the project in any medium. Dissemination includes the promotion and awareness-raising of a project. It makes research results known to various stakeholder groups (like research peers, industry and other commercial actors, professional organisations, policymakers) in a targeted way, to enable them to use the results in their own work. This process must be planned and organised at the beginning of each project, usually in a dissemination plan.

Table 1. Overview of EU Communication and Dissemination

Communication	Dissemination
About the project and results	About results only
Multiple audiences (beyond the project's own networks, includes public and media)	Audiences that may use the results in their own work e.g. scientific or project's own community, industry, professional organisations, policymakers
Inform and reach out to society, show the benefits of research	Enable use and uptake of results

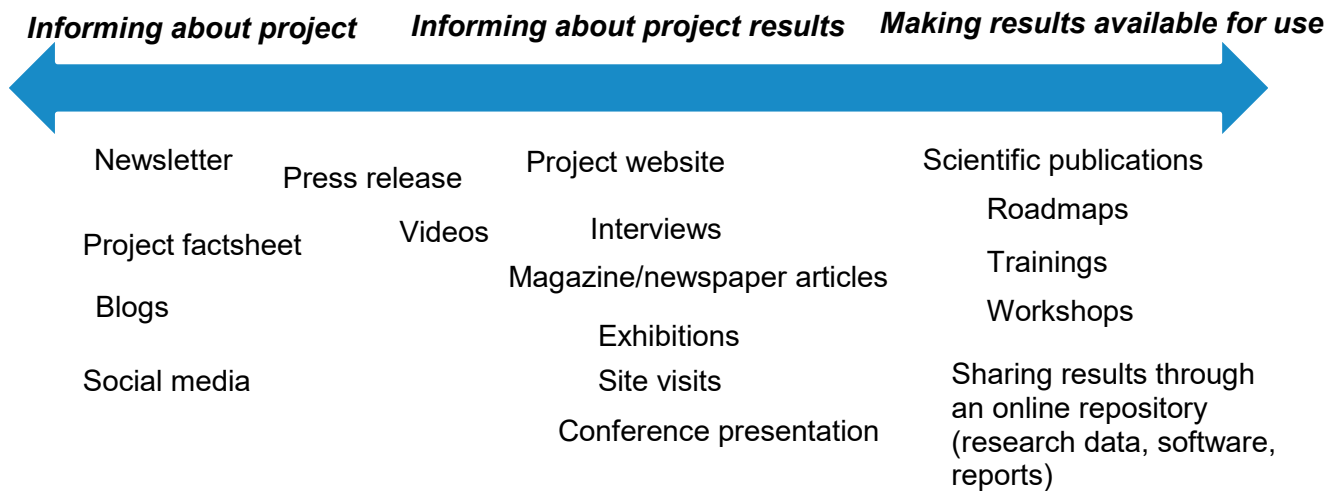


Figure 1. Spectrum of dissemination and communication.

The spectrum of communication and dissemination outputs are provided to support the achievement of project objectives outlined in section 1.2. To measure the achievement of the five main project objectives and to ensure they are directly contributing to the relevant expected impacts (EIs) a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been identified.

Communication and dissemination in and around RECONNECT will happen at six distinct levels:

1. Between partners, e.g. regular skype calls, emails, face-to-face project meetings and workshops; (role of the Management Support Team, Work Package Leaders)
2. With stakeholders closely involved with the project, e.g. advisory board, participants and partners, workshop participants; (role of the Management Support Team and respected Work Package Leaders with support from WP6 Team)
3. By the project partners and the EAB members with their respective professional communities; (WP6 team to activate individuals into this role regularly, but no control over what each individual actually does)
4. General public, scientific community, decision and policy-makers, nature based solutions practitioner communities; (role of WP6 Team)
5. Specific communication activities towards the EU Commission (role of the Coordinator)
6. Knowledge exchange with the Task Force on NBS Communicators Network on how to improve EU projects communications.

2.1. Expected impacts and KPIs

Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata. below provides the full list of Expected Impacts of the project. Five of them relate directly to the project communication and dissemination. The other four are presented here to support shaping key messages to target audiences.

Table 2. Expected impacts of the project relating to communication and dissemination; and shaping key messages

Expected Impacts (EI)	Relating to Communication and Dissemination	Relevant to shape key messages
EI 1: The EU is recognised as a leader in NBS for hydro-meteorological risk reduction and climate change adaptation.	X	
EI 2: NBS is mainstreamed in land use planning, landscaping and territorial policies due to the provision of appropriate tools and best practice.	X	
EI 3: An integrated EU- wide evidence base and a European reference framework on NBS is developed.	X	
EI 4: Market demand for NBS is enhanced for hydro-meteorological risk reduction and climate change adaptation.		X
EI 5: Disaster risk management is improved due to enhanced capacity for providing quantitative assessments of NBS for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.		X
EI 6: Human and financial costs are reduced due to better and more flexible disaster risk management with NBS.		X
EI 7: Implementation of EU policies for disaster risk prevention and reduction is enhanced.	X	
EI 8: RECONNECT contributes to the priorities of the EIP Water.	X	
EI 9: RECONNECT helps to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 15 and SDG 13.		X

Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata. below provides the full list of project KPIs. Only three of them relate to the evaluation of the project communication and dissemination. The other seven indicators are presented as elements to be communicated to a wider audience when showcasing the project itself.

Table 3. RECONNECT key performance indicators and how they relate to communication

<u>Key Performance Indicators (KPI)</u>	Evaluating the Communication	To be communicated based on project achievements
KPI 1: At least 4 demonstrator cases, where the benefits and replicability of NBS will be validated during the project lifetime.		X
KPI 2: Specific innovation/beyond the state-of-the-art Ambitions (A) to be applied successfully (key ambitions A are described in the DoA). Targets: For A1, A2, A3 at least 3 demonstrator cases, for A4 at least 5 demonstrator cases.		X
KPI 3: At least 2 regions with RECONNECT cases having promoted the new culture of land use planning in their regional SDOs, based on the evidence base with the project cases being available via online platform.	X	
KPI 4: At least 3 industrial partners who have adopted the prepared draft protocols and standards (P&S) for their own business.		X
KPI 5: At least 1 National associations having officially promoted (P&S) among its members.		X
KPI 6: At least 3 demonstrator cases with capacity in quantitative assessment of NBS enhanced.		X
KPI 7: 5 RECONNECT cases adopting relevant EU policies in planning, design and deployment of NBS.		X
KPI 8: At least 3 EIP Water events in which RECONNECT will participate.	X	
KPI 9: At least 1 relevant EIP Water Action Group (e.g. ESE) in which RECONNECT will participate.	X	
KPI 10: At least 3 RECONNECT cases adopting sustainable use of ecosystems to adapt to climate change, and in particular to reduce the risk to hydro-meteorological events.		X

2.2. Communication and Dissemination Strategy objectives

This communication and dissemination strategy and plan is intended to guide project participants' communication and dissemination, both internally and externally. It should be considered a reference for communication products related to the project and, more widely, for all communications, including the way partners communicate with all internal and external stakeholders and audiences. It should be considered a living document and be regularly updated. The purpose is to maintain a consistent and uniform way of communicating about the project.

The communication and dissemination strategy and plan will ultimately be used to guide partner outreach to all relevant target audiences, or "actors of change", to influence implementation of large-scale NBS in accordance to relevant EU, International, National and Local policies.

The key objectives of the strategy and plan are centred on awareness, communication, dissemination, engagement and exploitation (these are described in section 3.1) of RECONNECT outputs; this includes:

- Packaging information to be communicated to targeted audience groups on the relevance and application of innovative NBS in building resilience to hydro-meteorological risks and achieving co-benefits across spatial and temporal dimensions. The packaged information can be used to demonstrate the practical applicability of the products based on sound scientific data, which can support informed decision making and upscaling of NBS.
- Ensuring consistency in key messaging, branding of RECONNECT and what is being communicated and disseminated.
- Defining the outreach approach to increase awareness on NBS and share the knowledge and experience of RECONNECT among targeted audience groups within and outside the RECONNECT consortium.
- Recognizing partner activities, channels and networks to be utilised in communicating, disseminating and exploiting RECONNECT concepts, results and achievements to targeted and wider audience groups to assist in accelerating the awareness and knowledge on NBS development, implementation and standardisation.
- Defining the outreach approach to engage with media (both press and social media) to amplify RECONNECT messaging, developments, outputs and successes around how NBS can improve resilience to hydro-meteorological risks and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- Defining the outreach approach to engage with targeted audience groups; policy makers, decision makers, practitioners, private and public stakeholders, who can help influence development, implementation, standardisation and upscaling of large-scale NBS in accordance to relevant EU, International, National and Local policies.
- Promoting cooperation, collaboration and engagement of stakeholders around the development, implementation and standardisation of large-scale NBS. This will cultivate a Community of Users Network to identify potential partners and experts, and exchange knowledge and experience around NBS development, implementation and standardisation.

2.3. RECONNECT Management Structure and bodies involved in C&D

The RECONNECT management structure has been developed to support the efficient delivery of the project outcomes. The below list describes the different bodies of the management structure (the structure can be found in Annex 3), which could all be used as channels to disseminate project outputs or to identify champions (i.e., individuals within these bodies that promote the project and its outputs) to reach out to external target audiences:

- The **General Assembly (GA)** is the ultimate decision making body of the Consortium. It consists of at least one representative of each participating organisation. The General Assembly is free to act on its own initiative to formulate proposals and take decisions relevant for the project. Also, proposals made by the Executive Board (EB) are considered and decided upon by the GA.
- The **Executive Board (EB)** is the supervisory body for the execution of the project which shall report to and be accountable for the General Assembly. It consists of the Project Coordinator and Work Package leaders.

- The **Management Support Team (MST)** assists the EB and the Project Coordinator (PC). The members were approved by the General Assembly during the kick-off meeting and can change upon needs. The MST supports the EB and the PC for executing the decisions of the GA as well as the day-to-day management of the Project.
- The **Project Coordinator (PC)** is the legal entity acting as the intermediary between the participating organisations and the European Commission (Funding Authority). The PC has the ultimate responsibility for management and leading the activities of project.
- **Work Package Leaders (WPL)** are selected representatives based on their expertise and experience to lead individual work packages.
- **Demonstrator Clusters (DCs)** are composed by relevant administrative bodies at the local and/or regional scale, SME, and academic partners related to RECONNECT demonstration sites. They can also include other relevant local institutions that act as liaisons between RECONNECT and demonstrators and bring their own expertise and local knowledge (for conducting case specific activities e.g. Monitoring and Evaluation, M&E).
- **Collaborator Clusters (CCs)** are typically composed of the relevant administrative bodies at the local or regional scale and local responsible partners (local authorities, SME and/or academia) that should facilitate the efficient coordination and implementation of the collaborator related tasks and uptake of the best practices between the demonstrators and collaborators.
- The **External Expert Advisory Board (EAB)** consists of a number of external experts that provide an independent view and experience concerning technical, societal and wider stakeholder related issues to further enhance the credibility and quality of the work and the relevance of the project outputs for the (global green) business. The Board members are available for consultations throughout the project either in person or remotely.

2.4. Tasks and responsibilities within the Work Package 6

The distribution of responsibilities between the Work Package 6 tasks are outlined in Table 4 below.

Table 4 RECONNECT key performance indicators and how they relate to communication

<u>Tasks of Work Package 6</u>	Lead partner
Task 6.1- Develop and implement a dissemination, knowledge sharing and communication strategy building up of “knowledge portfolio” through future activities and beyond	GISIG
Task 6.2 - Communication platforms and promotional materials	GISIG
Task 6.3 Develop and deliver a MOOC	UNEXE
Task 6.4 - Develop and Implement dissemination actions and activities of project results (e.g., public events, media, OPPLA, etc.)	IUCN
Task 6.5 - Establish and coordinate a Community of Users network	Strane
Task 6.6 - National WS in each demonstrator and collaborator clusters	GISIG

<u>Tasks of Work Package 6</u>	Lead partner
Task 6.7 Organising common activities with other EC groups and actions (RECONNECT NBS Global Network)	IUCN

2.5. Interlinkages with Work Packages across RECONNECT

There are interlinkages across work packages with the communications and dissemination approaches in WP6:

- Local stakeholder engagement relies strongly on WP 2
- Exploitation of results is shaped by most work packages
- Training content will emerge from most work packages

These interlinkages with WP6 are also essential to shape the way each WP deliverables are to be communicated to different audiences and how to disseminate the tools, guidelines, platforms produced by the project to support users beyond the project partners.

The WP leaders, the members of each Cluster, and the members of the EAB will be instrumental in reaching out to specific audience and communities at European and international level, while the Demonstrator and Collaborator leads will be most effective to support communication and dissemination of outputs at local level.

All partners are to be activated into champions for the project and its outputs within their respective professional communities and through their organisations' communication channels. Relevant communication materials are to be developed to support partners in this role.

2.6. Exchanging approaches to communications between projects

GISIG and IUCN joined the EU task force on communications, Task Force 4 (see section 3.2.2, crossing-over all related EU projects) to exchange knowledge and increase collective capacities on communication and dissemination amongst EU funded projects.

3. Communication and Dissemination Strategy

3.1. RECONNECT approach to awareness, communication, dissemination, engagement and exploitation

The strategy aims to create and exponentially increase awareness and understanding of how large-scale NBS can improve resilience to hydro-meteorological risks and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services to target audiences. The strategy will be used as a reference for dissemination of outputs related to the project, as well as for overall communications between partners, to stakeholders, wider target groups and other interested parties such as the media. This is important to ensure consistency of key messages, common branding of the project and what is being communicated about the project. The strategy will also be used to guide exploitation of RECONNECT outputs. The following outlines the RECONNECT approach to each of the elements of awareness, communication, dissemination, engagement and exploitation.

Awareness will increase the knowledge and understanding of the project goals and objectives amongst all project partners and target audiences.

The approach is to develop strong visuals that can be used with most audiences to position the project as a leader in the development and implementation of innovative large-scale NBS to build resilience to hydro-meteorological risks while achieving multiple co-benefits across Europe and Internationally.

Communication is about promoting RECONNECT, the topic of NBS and the challenge the project is addressing across multiple audiences within and beyond our direct community.

The approach is to activate the consortium partners to promote the ambition of RECONNECT, and to support the consortium partners with adequate communication material and harmonised key messaging for multiple audiences.

Dissemination is how RECONNECT addresses targeted audience to ensure the results are used, and map out how these results are meaningful and relevant for the identified audience.

The approach is to activate the consortium partners to promote the results of RECONNECT, and to support the consortium partners with adequate packaging of the tools emerging from RECONNECT to facilitate their uptake (training, guidelines, ect.)

Two-way **engagement** (or two-way exchange) allows our audience to become more invested in the topic, the partners and the challenge being addressed. It will help facilitate a dialogue between the consortium and our audience in a more meaningful way that enables better understanding and buy-in of results.

The approach is to identify which consortium partners can engage with which communities of practice and encourage the consortium partners to establish a relationship with one or more potential users (individuals) of the project outputs

Exploitation is the use of the results during and after the project’s implementation. It can be for commercial purposes, for influencing policy and regulation, and/or for tackling economic and societal problems.

The approach is being developed as part of Work Package 5 and also in deliverable 6.9 (and future issues), in terms of general exploitation of the outputs.

3.2. Connection with Nature Based Solution Initiatives (EU and beyond)

It is particularly relevant to leverage the connections to EU activities to support the communication on the project and the dissemination of its results.

3.2.1. Connection with EU policies

The EU Research and Innovation policy agenda on Nature-Based Solutions and Re-Naturing Cities aims to position the EU as leader in ‘Innovating with nature’ for more sustainable and resilient societies. The policy brings together and capitalizes on major strands of knowledge and results from past EU Framework Programmes on biodiversity and ecosystems, sustainable urban development, natural resources management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction. **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.** outlines relevant EU policies.

Table 5. EU/International policies on ecosystem based approaches

Policy	Ecosystem-based initiative	Information mechanism
Climate adaptation	Ecosystem-based adaptation	ClimateAdapt
Biodiversity	Green Infrastructure	BISE
Water retention	Natural water Retention measures	NWRM platform
Disaster risk	Eco-DRR	DRMKC, PEDRR
Research and innovation	Nature-based Solutions	Oppla
Green Deal	Restoring biodiversity	EU Commission

In addition to those, RECONNECT deals with the main EU policies embedding water-related risks that are:

- Water Framework Directive(2000/60/EC)
- Flood Directive(2007/60/EC)
- Water Scarcity and Drought Communication

3.2.2. Networking and Clustering Connections with EU Nature Based Solution Projects

NBS projects funded via the EU (Table 6) are working together to:

1. Establish a common framework for NBS through:
 - Taskforce on Data Management and EU NBS knowledge repository (TF1)
 - Taskforce on NBS Impact Evaluation Framework (TF2)
2. Projects are developing new business and governance models and looking into financial mechanisms, essentially building the business case for NBS:
 - Taskforce on Governance, Business Models and Financial Mechanisms (TF3).
3. Building a NBS & Innovative community of practice with the help of the NBS stakeholder platform THINK NATURE (<https://www.think-nature.eu/>), OPPLA, etc.:
 - Taskforce on NBS Communicators (TF4).

Table 6. Overview of EU Nature Based Solutions projects

Project/initiative	Description	Weblink
ThinkNature ETTg	Establish science-policy-business-society interfaces to allow for continuous dialogue and interaction	https://www.think-nature.eu/ https://ettg.eu
NAIAD WeAdapt PLACARD SEI Initiative on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk (TDDR) INCCETT 4CB	Promote the uptake of ecosystem-based approaches for disaster risk reduction and climate change and the exploration of the concept of the insurance value of ecosystems	http://naiad2020.eu/ https://www.weadapt.org https://www.placard-network.eu https://www.sei.org/projects-and-tools/projects/sei-initiative-on-transforming-development-and-disaster-risk/
Nature4Cities Naturvation WWF Sweden's Council of Trustees Earth System Governance EDUCEN RISC-KIT	Enable the systemic integration of NBS into a sustainable urban planning, new governance, business, financing models and partnerships	https://www.nature4cities.eu/ https://naturvation.eu/ https://gca.org/home http://www.educenproject.eu/ http://www.risckit.eu/np4/home.html
CONNECTINGNature Urban GreenUp UNALAB GrowGreen S2S Platform	To provide a robust, EU-wide evidence base and develop a European reference framework for nature-based solutions in cities (water and climate resilience)	https://connectingnature.eu/ http://www.urbangreenup.eu/ https://www.unalab.eu/ http://growgreenproject.eu/ http://www.siwi.org/what-we-do/source-to-sea/ https://gca.org/home

Global Center on Adaptation		
CLEVER Cities EdiCitNet URBINAT proGReg	To provide a robust, EU-wide evidence base and develop a European reference framework for nature-based solutions in cities (inclusive urban regeneration)	https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/216078_en.html https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/216082_en.html https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/216086_en.html http://www.progireg.eu/
OPERANDUM RECONNECT Phusicos	To provide evidence that NBS are flexible, multi-beneficial alternatives to traditional engineering to cope with extreme hydro meteorological events	https://site.unibo.it/operandum/en www.reconnect.eu https://phusicos.eu/

There are also a number of COST Actions which RECONNECT can connect with (see Table 7 **Errore. L'origine riferimento non è stata trovata.**). The European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) provides funding for the creation of research networks, called COST Actions. These networks offer an open space for collaboration among scientists across Europe and beyond.

Table 7. Overview of relevant COST Actions

Name	Description	Link
Implementing nature based solutions for creating a resourceful circular city	The COST Action aims to establish a network testing the hypothesis that: “A circular flow system that implements NBS for managing nutrients and resources within the urban biosphere will lead to a resilient, sustainable and healthy urban environment”. Five working groups will deal with the built environment, urban water, resource recovery, urban farming and transformation tools connecting the WGs and the socio-economic impact.	https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA17133#tabs Name:overview
Natural Flood Retention on Private Land (Land4Flood)	Natural Water Retention Methods for flooding need to be implemented on private land and consider: economic issues, property rights, public participation, and public subsidies. The COST Action aims to address these different aspects and to establish a common knowledge base and channels of communication among scientists, regulators, land owners and other stakeholders in field.	http://www.land4flood.eu/network-of-networks/
Payments for Ecosystem Services (Forests for Water) -	Synthesize knowledge, provide guidance and encourage collaborative research to improve Europe’s capacity to use Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) to achieve Water Framework Directive (WFD) targets & other policy objectives through incentives for planting woodlands to reduce agricultural diffuse pollution to watercourses.	https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/research/pesforw/

3.2.3. Selection of other initiatives within EU and beyond

Table 8 outlines initiatives within the EU and beyond which will be developed further throughout the project and investigated within Task 6.7

Table 8. Overview of related Nature Based Solutions initiatives and beyond

Initiative	Were	Supported by	Description	Link
WISE-UP or 'Water Infrastructure Solutions from Ecosystem Services Underpinning Climate Resilient Policies and Programmes'	Volta and Tana River Basins	International Climate Initiative	Demonstrated the application of natural infrastructure as a 'nature-based solution' for climate change adaptation and sustainable development	https://www.iucn.org/theme/water/our-work/current-projects/wise-climate
PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet	Global	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and Global Environment Facility	A partnership initiative to document and promote examples of inspiring, replicable solutions across a range of conservation and sustainable development topics, enabling cross-sectoral learning and inspiration.	https://panorama.solutions/en/portal/ecosystem-based-adaptation
The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII) Global	Global		Launched by Munich Re in April 2005 in response to the growing realisation that insurance-related solutions can play a role in adaptation to climate change, as advocated in the Framework Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. To achieve this, MCII brings together insurers, experts on climate change and adaptation, NGOs, and policy researcher's intent on finding solutions to the risks posed by climate change.	https://ehs.unu.edu/research/climate-insurance-projectmunich-climate-insurance-initiative.html#outline

Urban Agenda for EU - Climate Change Adaptation Partnership	Global	UN Habitat	<p>The Urban Agenda for the EU was launched in May 2016 with the Pact of Amsterdam. It represents a new multi-level working method promoting cooperation between Member States, cities, the European Commission and other stakeholders in order to stimulate growth, liveability and innovation in the cities of Europe and to identify and successfully tackle social challenges. It is grounded on 12 partnerships, aimed at addressing better regulation, funding and knowledge on the specific topics they deal with. The Municipality of Genoa, connected with GISIG and other Italian partners, is the coordinator of the Climate Change Adaptation Partnership of Urban Agenda, and also partner in Unalab.</p>	<p>https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/policy/themes/urban-development/agenda/pact-of-amsterdam.pdf</p>
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3.3. Target audiences for communication and dissemination

The promotion of the project actions and results which is framed around solution-oriented communications materials, will primarily target:

- **External Expert Advisory Board (EAB):** a pool of experts who have an extensive network in their area of expertise. The EAB will be well informed on the project and activated as champions to disseminate outputs in their respective expertise communities.
- **Government Agencies:** Agencies mandated to ensure security, planning, civil protection, environmental sustainability and health, such as Environment ministry, housing councils, tourism departments, science departments. RECONNECT will disseminate project results to the immediate participating demonstrator and collaborators agencies through the various project activities. Beyond the project's relevant government agencies, RECONNECT will reach out to EU, regional and national agencies, and where possible global networks of such agencies through the networks of IUCN, GISIG, IHE, Ramboll, TAUW and other consortium partners.
- **Policy and Decision makers:** national and local officials in charge of policies and planning and formulate, adopt, implement, evaluate, or change policies, such as market research analysts, public policy managers, research and data analysts. RECONNECT results will be disseminated to policy and decision makers and regulators directly connected to the demonstrator and collaborator sites. These contacts will be empowered to communicate further to partner cities, regions, local authorities at national and international level.
- **Expert Practitioners:** professionals with expertise in engineering, regulation land use planning, biology, insurance. RECONNECT partners form members of the practitioner community and will disseminate project results within their networks through targeted meetings, newsletters and sharing results through targeted workshops, and provide opportunities for practitioners to engage with RECONNECT activities.
- **Public and Private Stakeholders:** public sector and private companies who own land where NBS activities are implemented or planned. RECONNECT results will be disseminated to the Public and Private Stakeholders directly connected to the demonstrator and collaborator sites. Business and industries contacts will be empowered to communicate further to partner cities, regions, local authorities at national and international level Schools, education systems, etc..
- **Finance and investor sectors:** individuals and companies who invest or have an interest in investing in NBS and sustainable development. Hedge fund managers, private capital investors, venture capital funds, social entrepreneurs, etc. RECONNECT results will be disseminated to the financiers directly connected to the demonstrator and collaborator sites.
- **Industry (and private sector):** those who plan or are generating revenue or enhancing their commercial image by implementing sustainability measures such as NBS. Service and equipment providers; Private sector CSR, commercial consortiums, etc. RECONNECT partners will disseminate knowledge and project results within their companies and organizations and through their networks to influence uptake of well-established and standardised large-scale NBS and promote a green economy.
- **EU Networks, Communities and initiatives.** The relationship and connections of project partners to the various networks and communities will be leveraged to communicate on the project goals and promote project outputs.

- Scientific Community. Many of the RECONNECT partners are heavily engaged in collaboration with other projects and offer access to global networks. This enables the transfer of knowledge and the opportunity for further research and practices to achieve new knowledge and techniques concerning NBS, building resilience to hydro-meteo risks, biodiversity and ecosystem restoration and enhancement and water management technology. RECONNECT scientific partners are highly motivated to provide strong evidence base on NBS for the scientific and industry communities.

Table 9 includes a schema specifying the different levels/categories of target audience, their role as actor of change, the contribution by RECONNECT C&D activities and the expected outcomes by this involvement.

Table 9. Target audience, way to engage them and expected outcomes

Target audience	Role as "actor of change"	C&D actions undertaken by RECONNECT	Outcomes
<i>External Expert Advisory Board (EAB)</i>	<p>Connector role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure synergies with other projects - Inform practice and research communities about project scope and results - Champion the uptake of the main project outputs by specific audiences below 	The EAB is a pool of experts who have an extensive network in their area of expertise. The EAB will be well informed on the project and activated as champions to disseminate outputs in their respective expertise communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Share the results of the project with the relevant practitioner and scientific communities - Feed results from their expert communities to the project partners
<i>EU Networks, Communities and initiatives (see above list)</i>	<p>Disseminator role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognised source of information for many practitioners 	The relationships and connections of project partners to the various networks and communities will be leveraged to communicate on the project goals and promote project outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide them with easy to use communication material to relay in their networks.
<i>Government Agencies (mandated to ensure security, protect ecosystems, improve quality of life and health)</i>	<p>Use of the RECONNECT assessment framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apply it themselves as the owner of assets - Require project stakeholders to apply it in order to obtain financing or permits <p>Contribute to the Business Model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They may finance measures (fully or partially) - Support valuing co-benefits under the mandate to protect citizens and assets, protect & restore ecosystems 	RECONNECT will disseminate project results to the immediate participating demonstrator and collaborator agencies through the various project activities. Beyond the project's relevant government agencies, RECONNECT will reach out to EU, regional and national agencies, and where possible global networks of such agencies through the networks of IUCN, GISIG, IHE and generally all the consortium.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on the project - Convince them of the quality of the project main outputs so that they decide to use them or request their use - Train them to use the project outputs - Give them a way to train others

Target audience	Role as "actor of change"	C&D actions undertaken by RECONNECT	Outcomes
<p><i>Policy and Decision makers</i> (local authorities with a jurisdiction over the land impacted by the NBS: cities, metropolitan government, river basin authorities, etc.)</p>	<p>They are in charge of Land planning and can dedicate land to NBS.</p> <p>They set incentives or legal requirements that support the implementation of large-scale NBS.</p> <p>They deliver the permit for measures implementation and monitor impacts.</p> <p>They are not always direct users of the project outputs but have the capacity to drive their future use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Require project stakeholders to use the outputs in order to obtain financing or permits - Influence positive behaviour around NBS. <p>Contribute to the Business Model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They may finance measures (fully or partially) - Support valuing co-benefits under the mandate to protect citizens and assets, enhance quality of life, protect & restore ecosystems 	<p>RECONNECT results will be disseminated to policy and decision makers and regulators directly connected to the demonstrator and collaborator sites. These contacts will be empowered to communicate further to partner cities, regions, local authorities at national and international level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on the project - Convince them of the quality of the project main outputs so that they decide to use them or request their use - Train them to use the project outputs - Give them a way to train others - Support them with materials to reach out to their partner cities, regions, local authorities at national and international level.

Target audience	Role as "actor of change"	C&D actions undertaken by RECONNECT	Outcomes
<p><i>Public and Private Stakeholders</i> (those who own the land or have their activity on the land impacted by a specific large-scale NBS)</p>	<p>Adopt a positive behaviour towards NBS to enable their successful implementation and maintenance.</p> <p>Share positive attitude regarding NBS in the general media.</p>	<p>RECONNECT results will be disseminated to the Public and Private Stakeholders directly connected to the demonstrator and collaborator sites.</p> <p>Businesses and industries contacts will be empowered to communicate further to partner cities, regions, local authorities at national and international level</p> <p>Schools, education systems, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raising awareness through targeted knowledge transfer through educational/learning processes - Trigger positive behaviour
<p><i>Financiers</i></p>	<p>Provide the funds to implement and maintain NBS.</p> <p>Support the NBS business model by lending funds to economic activities on the land impacted by NBS.</p> <p>Support the NBS business model by reducing the insurance value of assets located on land impacted by risks that would be reduced by the new NBS.</p> <p>Agenda setters, however they can be influenced by other actors who may not value NBS.</p>	<p>RECONNECT results will be disseminated to the financiers directly connected to the demonstrator and collaborator sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In addition, project partners of WP5 will directly reach out to financiers and insurance companies to contribute to business models development. These contacts would have a national or international scope of work in which the RECONNECT outputs could be exploited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise awareness amongst financiers on the need and importance of large scale NBS to building resilience to ensure long-term financing for NBS. - Connect financiers with relevant agencies seeking financial resources to implement such initiatives. - Counter anti-NBS lobbying on financiers - Convince them of the quality of the assessment framework - Train them to use the project outputs

Target audience	Role as "actor of change"	C&D actions undertaken by RECONNECT	Outcomes
<p><i>Industry (and private sector)</i> Those who generate revenue or enhance their commercial image by implementing NBS (Service and equipment providers; developers of NBS; Private sector CSR)</p>	<p>Service providers (e.g. equipment)</p> <p>Innovators/Developers of NBS</p> <p>Disseminate a positive image/ inspire positive action around NBS</p> <p>Influence others in the same industry by showcasing leading edge practice [domino effect, private sector influencing private sector (CSR, etc.)]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RECONNECT partners will disseminate knowledge and project results within their companies and organisations and through their networks to influence uptake of well-established and standardised large-scale NBS and promote a green economy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognition of good practice - Share guidelines and standards - Support with materials that trigger positive behaviour
<p><i>Practitioners</i> (engineers, regulators, land use planners, biologists, insurance brokers, and all those whose practice should be affected by the implementation of innovative NBS)</p>	<p>Use the science or evidence base to inform decision-making and design of NBS</p> <p>Adapt their practice to uptake incremental innovations that strengthen NBS</p> <p><i>The exact role varies for each profile of practitioner and the project outputs they may be used vary from topic area to topic area (see section below the table for an overview of topics)</i></p>	<p>RECONNECT partners form members of the practitioner community and will disseminate project results within their networks through targeted meetings, newsletters, and sharing results through targeted workshops, and provide opportunities for practitioners to engage with RECONNECT activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on the project to foster exchanges - Convince them of the quality of the project main outputs so that they decide to use them - Train them to use the project outputs - Support them with materials to reach out to their professional partners at national and international level.
<p><i>Scientific Community</i></p>	<p>Contribute to developing the evidence base</p> <p>Validate the results of the project</p> <p>Use and build on the results for their own projects</p> <p>Develop new solutions that can be acknowledged by the project</p>	<p>Many of the RECONNECT partners are heavily engaged in collaboration with other projects and offer access to a global networks. This enables the transfer of knowledge and the opportunity for further research and practices to achieve new knowledge and techniques concerning nature based solutions, building resilience to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on the project to foster exchanges - Awareness on project results to foster synergies between projects - Share project reports to support knowledge exchange between projects - Share publications and encourage citing

Target audience	Role as "actor of change"	C&D actions undertaken by RECONNECT	Outcomes
	<p>Scientific community should be reached out to with each of the topics listed below via the different communities in which project partners take part.</p>	<p>hydro-meteorological risks, biodiversity and ecosystem restoration and enhancement and water management technology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RECONNECT scientific partners are highly motivated to provide strong evidence base on NBS for the scientific and industry communities. 	

Large-scale NBS to reduce hydro-climatic risks cover a wide range of expertise, therefore the practitioner and scientific community target audience should be broken down into topics or areas of expertise. The way to reach out to practitioners and scientists working on these topics will be through existing communities of practice and research, which will benefit from the projects outputs, but also feed their own results into the project to ensure cooperation and synergies between research projects.

The different topics around which communities of practice and research exist are identified below:

Science

- Disaster risk management (includes those working to achieve the Sendai Framework)
- Climate change
- Water community
- Nature Based Solutions
- Biodiversity
- Innovation (includes ICT)
- Copernicus community

Social science

- Social science, public participation and collaboration between stakeholders

Financing

- Insurance and financing

3.4. Key messages

The purpose of the key messages is to provide all partners with standard information and homogenous messaging. The key messages are meant to be broad and represent the overarching objectives of RECONNECT. These can be readapted and tailored to specific messages in brochures, newsletters, short movies, press releases. They are intended as a resource for the Consortium partners to ensure homogenous communications by all project champions. The annual update of this Communication and Dissemination Strategy will offer an opportunity to further tailor these messages to the project needs.

3.4.1. Societal awareness

KEY MESSAGE 1: Rapid urbanisation, population growth and more frequent weather extremes are putting an increasing pressure on already contested land and water resources. Integrating green infrastructure or so-called Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) into landscape planning and development makes urban and rural areas more resilient to the impacts of climate change, such as floods or droughts. NBS also provide a wealth of social, environmental and economic benefits. RECONNECT aims to enhance the European reference framework on Nature Based Solutions for hydro-meteorological risk reduction by demonstrating, referencing, upscaling and exploiting large-scale NBS in rural and natural areas.

3.4.2. Value of the project's transdisciplinary approach to NBS

KEY MESSAGE 2: The conceptual strength of Nature-Based Solutions to tackle multifaceted challenges faced by society resides in its integrative, systemic approach. This approach is

embedded in RECONNECT, an unprecedented transdisciplinary partnership of researchers, industrial partners and authorities at local and regional level that integrate different perspectives from relevant stakeholders so that the “solutions” proposed contribute not only to reduce hydro-meteorological risks, but also to enable multiple benefits across stakeholder groups.

Sub-messages:

- Forests in and around cities act as carbon sinks, purify the air, reduce urban noise and improve people’s mental health and well-being;
- Cities can save substantial water treatment costs by investing in nature-based solutions in their watersheds such as riverbank restoration and reforestation;
- Nature Based Solutions such as wetlands, wastewater treatment ponds and soil infiltration systems, green roofs and walls can be part of the solution to global sanitation challenges, supporting the removal of contaminants.

3.4.3. On bridging science to policy

KEY MESSAGE 3: RECONNECT brings scientific evidence about the exclusive benefits of NBS to reduce the impacts of water-related climatic risks into policy-making to support adoption. The outcomes of RECONNECT provide policy makers and practitioners with the necessary capacities, knowledge and skills to scale up nature-based solutions, as well as how to deploy and integrate them with traditional grey infrastructure solutions.

3.4.4. On scaling up

KEY MESSAGE 3: RECONNECT develops standards for NBS and proof of concepts that can help scale up their adoption in context-specific locations. Innovative evaluation and monitoring tools are applied to support evidence based decision making and template business cases for large scale implementation of pilot NBS.

3.5. Definitions and terminology

Reaching out to numerous audiences, from several disciplines and backgrounds, could lead to different interpretations and understanding of concepts and terms. To ensure the use of a consistent terminology, an extensive glossary of terms for RECONNECT is being developed and will be presented as a separate document. The glossary of terms combines (and adapts) the glossaries developed in the PEARL project, the EKLIPSE impact evaluation framework, and adds new terms that are relevant for RECONNECT. Such glossary of terms will be (partially) included in specific deliverables and will be used as reference for communication and dissemination activities. Below is a sample of key terms contained in the glossary.

Adaptation:

The ability of a system to adjust in response to actual or changing expectations in climate or other drivers of risk.

Holistic ecosystem-based framework:

Framework to support NBS co-creation activities. The framework enables (1) to study the interactions between hydro-meteorological events and sociotechnical activities with the purpose to assess the effects of different institutional policies, cultural contexts and land management practices on the effectiveness of NBS under different circumstances and conditions; (2) to study the interdependencies between sociotechnical activities (e.g., market demand dynamics, land planning, and policy) through the analysis of interactions between drivers for demand and supply

for NBS, their replication and upscaling; (3) innovative comprehensive evaluation of NBS in relation to three categories of challenges (water, nature, and people) across spatial and temporal dimensions.

Hydro-meteorological risk:

Risk associated with hydro-meteorological hazards caused by extreme meteorological and climate events such as floods, droughts, storm surges, and landslides. Following the UNISDR definition, disaster risk refers to the potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets which could occur to a system, society or a community in a specific period of time, determined probabilistically as a function of hazard, exposure, and capacity. It is also defined as a multidimensional concept that comprises subjective assessments based on experience and information as well as perceived or attributed risk characteristics within a certain social, cultural and historical context.

NBS Effectiveness:

The degree to which objectives are achieved and the extent to which targeted problems are solved. In contrast to efficiency, effectiveness is determined without reference to costs. For example:

- Does the NBS lead to enhanced climate resilience in the area?
- Does the NBS lead to environmental benefits?
- Does the NBS lead to social benefits?
- Does the NBS lead to economic benefits?

Services Platform:

Information and communications technology (ICT) solution developed in RECONNECT to support co-creation activities. The platform combines a network of distributed data, intelligent tools and standardized web-services, which is accessible through a centralized catalogue of network services. The RECONNECT Services Platform contains real-time information about the performance of NBS and intelligent evaluation tools that facilitates the co-creation process in Demonstrators and Collaborators to enable replication and upscaling of NBS.

3.6. Visual identity

3.6.1. Project logo

RECONNECT official logo symbolizes the “reconnection” of man with the Nature, which is the main spirit of the project.

The logo is the main identifier of RECONNECT brand and project visual identity (Figure 2). It must be used in all project documents and project outputs issued such as web site, dissemination material, technical reports and documents, notice boards in Demonstrators (if any), workshops, and conferences so that their relation with RECONNECT is clear and directly identifiable.

Only the logo downloadable by the RECONNECT document management systems are usable and accepted.



Figure 2 RECONNECT logo color and grey scale;

RECONNECT logo is available both in color and in grey scale. Primarily the logo should be used on a white background for maximum impact and clarity. For other background color, it is important that logo reads clearly and has sufficient contrast with a background color or photo.

No other logos can be recreated, and effects (e.g. shadows, gradients, strokes), modifications (e.g. redrawing, distortion, rotation) and change of color and radius are not allowed.

The RECONNECT logo must be always accompanied by the EU flag and the acknowledgment of EU/H2020 funds as indicated in section 4.5.

3.6.2. Templates for Documents and Presentations

Each project product and documents must be issued by using the Word as well as Power Point template. Templates are available to all project partners in a dedicated area of the project document management system.

The Word template (as used in this deliverable) has to be used for project documents, technical specifications and in general all textual deliverables.

The Power Point template has to be used for all presentations on the project delivered on the occasion of both internal and external events.



Figure 3 RECONNECT Template for presentations
All templates are available in the joint project platform.

4. Communication and Dissemination Plan

RECONNECT dissemination and exploitation begins with content creating original content to support the project both online through the project website and partner websites and offline at meetings, events and conferences using printed materials and presentations. At the same time, we are identifying places to post this information and opportunities for cross-posting on our respective digital channels.

The project will be communicated through a mixture of direct and indirect channels, and will disseminate information based on agreed outreach timelines, what their involvement or engagement with the project is, and what media they typically consume.

4.1. Communication and Dissemination timeline

A communication and dissemination timeline is available in Annex 4. Below is a summary of the strategy for the duration of the project.

In the first year, communication platforms (e.g. project website, information sheet, newsletters, and events) and social media channels (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube) will be established and identified to create awareness of the project, disseminate the project concepts in strategic networks and demonstrate a powerful public image of RECONNECT.

In the second and third years, RECONNECT will continue to build awareness of the project results and engage in more targeted communication for specific group of networks (i.e. business partners, policy and decision makers, citizen groups, design engineers and planners, scientists, etc.). Increased awareness will be achieved through the dissemination of enriched content via the communication platforms and social media channels established in the first year, through a Community of Users Network, engaging with other EC groups (e.g. EIP Water, ICT4Water cluster, etc.), and by publishing project results in journals and magazines.

The final three years will make use of our growing community to enhance dissemination and exploitation of project knowledge components through webinars (e.g. social innovation for success, monitoring and evaluation technologies and tools, business model for up-scaling, standards for design and O&M of large scale NBS, etc.), tailor made MOOC for upscaling large-scale NBS, and training framework including customised e-learning and open source tools.

A final RECONNECT Conference on “Nature Based Solutions for hydro-meteorological risk” will be organised in the final year, gathering all stakeholder communities relevant for the project. The conference can include a session dedicated to the training of stakeholders and operators about project main topics and applications, supported by the RECONNECT Training Framework.

4.2. Communication and Dissemination Channels

4.2.1. RECONNECT website

The RECONNECT project website, www.reconnect.eu, is the key entry point where stakeholders and interested users can be directed to find information related to the project. It will be a major communication channel for disseminating information and engaging stakeholders. The RECONNECT consortium is strongly motivated to provide evidence based scientific results that will be of major importance and interest for the scientific and industry communities. This content

as well as media materials, blogs, news stories, multimedia products, relevant resources, events, and other project outputs (i.e. meeting reports) will be communicated through the project website. The various material will cater to the different audiences of RECONNECT.

4.2.2. Social media

RECONNECT is producing strong and engaging content relevant for a diverse set of audiences. Social media will be used to drive traffic to the project website and contribute to outreach, awareness raising and knowledge sharing around NBS. Through RECONNECT social media, we will help grow the following around NBS as a promising approach to address current challenges.

RECONNECT will establish the following social media channels for disseminating information to stakeholders and a wider audience, and engaging stakeholders more proactively as outlined in Table 10.

Table 10. Overview of social media channels and how they will be used for RECONNECT

Social media channel	Description/Comment	Purpose/To what end?	Average weekly activity	KPIs
Twitter	<p>Twitter handle vs Twitter hashtag.</p> <p>As the Twitter handle is time restricted (dies after the project ends), the project will use a Twitter hashtag, which can grow and live beyond the duration of the project. Can leverage the existing partner accounts to reach a wider audience</p>	<p>Twitter is used to engage with others in the field and releasing bite-sized project/content updates, for example a new publication, event, or development. When referring to project documents, for example, the tweet should refer to full versions held on the website so as to direct traffic to the website.</p>	At least 5 posts per week in the last year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of engagement • Amount of unique visitors • Number of followers (growth)
Facebook	Group or page - this should be more topical than about the project itself. Higher chance to get more engagement from the community	Engage at the community level by providing relevant posts inform and trigger a conversation, rather than an update of project outputs.	At least 1 post per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of engagement • Amount of unique visitors • Number of followers (growth)
LinkedIn	Group - See above	Engage at the professional level.	At least 1 post per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of engagement

		See above		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of unique visitors • Number of followers (growth)
YouTube	Promotional videos, repository of webinar recordings, demonstrations, etc.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of views

To be effective on social media, the consortium will create, share and exchange information and ideas with the online community, ensuring our content is engaging, new and relevant.

4.2.3. Newsletters and magazines

RECONNECT will publish at least 8 newsletters to communicate project outputs. Each newsletter will have a thematic focus with key contributors, to be identified, from the consortium. Content should also be communicated using partner and stakeholder newsletters and magazines.

4.2.4. Press releases /media/ Policy briefs

Press releases are required for media outreach and to make the project understandable and accessible to business and news media.

Policy briefs/briefing notes are developed to influence decision making by improving the understanding of an issue, and providing options and recommendations to address the issues. Blogs are a great way to connect with the research community and build a narrative around the evolution of the project. Blogs are a good place to summarise articles, get feedback and have online discussions.

4.2.5. Scientific journals, papers, publications

To provide peer reviewed scientific evidence of NBS impacts to drive and expand research and science in the field. To also bridge the science-to-practice interface.

Scientific journals, papers, publications will be tracked on a regular basis using Zenodo database and the Continuous Reporting Tool available on the EC Portal.

4.2.6. Events, conference, workshops

RECONNECT will target high-profile events, conferences and workshops at the national, European and international level to participate and engage (e.g. organise technical sessions, workshops, etc.) with a broader audience group across the science-policy-practice interface. Engaging at this level will further contribute to the exploitation strategy of RECONNECT. Events, conference and workshops will be tracked on a regular basis through input by the partners (activity sheets).

4.2.7. Training

RECONNECT learning opportunities, including training, e-learning/online courses, MOOC, webinars, etc. will be tracked through input by the partners (activity sheets).

4.3. Partner Dissemination Channels

Consortium partners each have their own modes of dissemination which can be used to promote and communicate information being developed by RECONNECT.

4.4. Reporting and evaluation

Google analytics will be used to track the traffic to the RECONNECT website by embedding a “tracking code” on each page of the website. This will give insights on how users find and use the project website. Growth in traffic over time on the website is a good indicator of engagement and conversion and time spent on the website will define how engaging content developed under RECONNECT is. Returning visitors can also be monitored to assess the quality of our content.

Social media channels provide their own analytics. This again can be used to observe growth of the channels, the engagement of the channel.

Other metrics to monitor can be the number of downloads of a report or article, number of times content is shared, the number of brochures distributed, the number of people attending an event, etc.

All this data are used to assess KPIs as indicated into the logframe (section 4.5, Table 12)

4.5. Open access and acknowledgement of EU funding

The project will run for a period of 6 years from 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2024.

RECONNECT receives funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No. 776866.

As Horizon 2020 is financed by EU citizens, the outputs should benefit to the largest number and the fruits of the research reach society as a whole. For this reason, all products produced under RECONNECT are open access to ensure research results are more accessible and contribute to a better and more efficient, science, and to innovation in the public and private sectors.

The following acknowledgement and disclaimer will be included in all publications, so that they may be associated with RECONNECT:

Acknowledgement

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 776866

Disclaimer

The deliverable D6.1 reflects only the authors' views and the European Union is not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained herein.

4.6. Monitoring and Evaluation of Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation: the WP6 logframe

RECONNECT WP6 logframe can be found below in table 12. This outlines the key activities under the main expected results under WP. The aim of this approach is to develop an M&E tool to enable clear and accountable monitoring of WP 6 activities and their associated impacts.

Table 12: WP6 logframe

Overall WP6 objective/impact: <i>To support the enhancement of the EU reference framework on NBS for hydro-meteorological risk reduction and the replication and the upscaling of RECONNECT results</i>					
Expected result 6.1: Dissemination, Knowledge sharing and communication strategy provides partners and target users with easy-to-use communication material to relay with networks and communities, as well as					
Activity	Output	Outcome	Indicator	Source of verification	Tools
6.1.1 Communication, dissemination and exploitation strategy and plan to project target groups	Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Strategy and Plan documents	Champion the uptake of the main project outputs by specific audiences Ensure synergies with other project and initiatives Monitor and Evaluate C&D&E impacts	N. of versions issued at M3 and then M18, M42, M71 (plus a dedicated section in each interim and final report to EC)	Document of Activities, outcomes of WPs, External Review Reports	Document outlining and streamlining actions for communications, dissemination and exploitation
6.1.2 Common branding for templates, social, web site	Brand Guide – visual identity (delivered)	Communicate RECONNECT in a standard way and outcomes compliant with visual identity	Brand Guide online available for partners and stakeholders	EC guidelines, CA, RECONNECT logo	All C&D channels
6.1.3 Promotion across partners communication channels (media, press, blogs)	Articles, news on partners' communication channels, increasing RECONNECT network of stakeholders	Bridge websites and link communities online to encourage exchange virtually and increase clicks/hits/links on partner websites	N. of contents shared within partners' channels / As and when necessary – release of new project outputs / results reports etc or following key demo events / workshops/conferences where results are shared	Partner's websites and social media channels	Apply google analytics for targeted partner channel communications Social media
Expected result 6.2: Communication platforms and promotional materials trigger positive behavioural change towards NBS through generating webstories, blogs and visual storytelling pieces on NBS success stories					
Activity	Output	Outcome	Indicator	Source of verification	Tools

6.2.1 RECONNECT web site	Project website collecting all project descriptions, info, news, outcomes	Provide a gateway to access RECONNECT information, news, results and products with 2000 downloads in Y2 and 3	N of visits, N of downloads / On a periodical basis, in occasion of submission of deliverables and project meetings ...	Google Analytics	Wordpress; Google Analytics
6.2.2 Additional web tools and social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn Group, Youtube channel, Researchgate)	Management of the mentioned social media accounts with 1000 likes/shares in year 2/3	Disseminate a positive image/inspire positive action around NBS	Number of Likes/followers / Weekly or monthly	Like/Sharing of contents - Social media	Social media analytics
6.2.3 Promotional material: 6-monthly electronic newsletters	Electronic RECONNECT newsletters	Provide partners and target audience with easy to use communication material to relay in their network	N of issues (10 in total) N of emails with newsletters opened and downloaded Every 6 months, starting from M6	Mailchimp (newsletter analytics)	Articles are written in Medium and linked in the newsletter)
6.2.4 Promotional material: leaflets and brochures	Project leaflet (translated into the Demo and Collaborators languages) RECONNECT Final Brochure	Provide partners and target audience with easy to use communication material to relay in their network	N of leaflet versions N of brochure versions Leaflet: project beginning and 2 interim report Brochure: project end	Versions on the web site available for download	PowerPoint, InDesign
6.2.5 Promotional material: production of project videos	Reconnect channel on Youtube with 500 views and at least 30 (substantial) comments	Provide partners and target audience with easy to use communication material to relay in their network	N of views, N of shares, N of comments On a when needed and planned basis	Youtube	Youtube, Biteable (video software)
6.2.6 RECONNECT presentations and posters at conferences and workshops	RECONNECT posters; RECONNECT presentations	Provide partners and target audience with easy to use communication material to relay in their network	N of presentation/ poster in main sectoral events On a when needed and planned basis	Activity sheets / direct contacts with WP6 responsible	Power Point, Infogram (infographics software)

6.2.7 Capacity building and training (Training Framework)	Training modules and training activities	Train target users to use project outputs	Training materials Webinars On a when needed and planned basis	Number of downloads for training material (500) Attendees feedback, registrations to training events	E-learning platform, web Webinar tools
Expected result 6.3 – Develop and Deliver a MOOC (from M48) so that awareness is raised through targeted knowledge transfer in educational/learning processes					
Activity	Output	Outcome	Indicator	Source of verification	Tools
6.3.1 MOOC on NBS	RECONNECT MOOC	Provide target users with training materials to help them training the others	Training materials/ On a when needed and planned basis	Number MOOC access (500)	Web, App
Expected result 6.4 – Develop and Implement dissemination to share results of the project with the relevant practitioner and scientific communities					
Activity	Output	Outcome	Indicator	Source of verification	Tools
6.4.1 RECONNECT scientific publications	Scientific articles, manuals, books	Share publications and encourage citing Validating the results of the project Share project publications to support knowledge exchange between projects	No. of scientific publications issued under RECONNECT on impacted journals On a when needed and planned basis with other WPs	WPs outcomes, scientific outcomes of RECONNECT	Zenodo database
6.4.2 RECONNECT workshops led within events in the sector, partners participation is coordinated	Deliver 4 sessions at identified conference and virtual workshops	Raise awareness on the need and importance of NBS to building resilience Share results of the project with relevant practitioners and scientific communities	N of workshops & participants testimonies from workshops / On a when needed and planned basis with other WPs	Attendees feedback, collection of testimonies, survey results from follow-up	GoToMeeting (any virtual conf platform), on-site meetings, use of filming equipment, Youtube Streaming
6.4.3 RECONNECT Briefing notes	4 briefing notes influence decision making and providing options and	Recognition of good practices	Briefing notes for policy and decision makers produced and shared /	Report from stakeholders workshops, download from web site, issued versions	Project web site, newsletters, stakeholders workshops

	recommendations to address NBS implementation	Awareness on the project through targeted key messages and infographics	On a when needed and planned basis with other WPs		
Expected result 6.5 – Community of Users network					
Activity	Output	Outcome	Indicator	Source of verification	Tools
6.5.1 Establish a global network of users associated to the business plans	RECONNECT Global Network	Share guidelines and standards Train end users to use project outputs Connect financers with relevant entities seeking for funds to implement NBS	People in the team / On a when needed and planned basis with other WPs		
6.5.2 Support to establishing the RECONNECT Global Network (TNC, IUCN, GIS, INSPIRE and Copernicus Communities, etc)	RECONNECT Global Network	Feed results from these expert communities to project partners	Membership / no. of events participated in across various networks /Regular continued engagement and periodic attendance of meetings when they arise	Meeting notes, website news updates of various NBS related platforms	Contacts, direct engagement
Task 6.6 – National workshops in each demonstrator and collaborator clusters reach target audiences to increase awareness and learning on NbS from RECONNECT results					
Activity	Output	Outcome	Indicator	Source of verification	Tools
6.6.1. 2 national workshops in Demonstrators	Report and proceedings of the National workshop	Disseminate results to policy and decision makers directly connected to the demonstrator site	N of national Workshop N of attendees (1 by M18 and 1 from M30 and M48)	Attendees feedback, collection of testimonies, survey results from follow-up	Face to face workshop
6.6.2. 1 national workshop by Collaborators	Report and proceedings of the National workshop	Disseminate results to policy and decision makers directly connected to the collaborator site	N of national Workshop N of attendees	Attendees feedback, collection of testimonies,	Face to face workshop

			(starting from M24)	survey results from follow-up	
6.6.3 Final RECONNECT conference “Nature Based Solutions for hydro-meteorological risk”	Final Conference	Empower participants to communicate further to partner cities, regions, local authorities at national and international level	N of attendees End of project	Attendees feedback, collection of testimonies, survey results from follow-up	Face to face conference
Expected result 6.7 Organizing common activities with other EC groups and actions so that awareness is raised about NbS through key messaging and sharing of experiences.					
Activity	Output	Outcome	Indicator	Source of verification	Tools
6.7.1 Identify most appropriate EC Water Initiatives and cluster to join and deliver joint activities (e.g. EIP Water Actions)	Sharing of experience and joint actions, mapping of RECONNECT outcomes to be exploited	Favor the exploitation of RECONNECT outputs as well as their integration into regional/EU policies and funding allocation programmes	N. of joined initiatives On a when needed and planned basis with other WPs	Registration to the initiative/cluster	Registration as a member

Annex 1 – Consortium Expertise

Partner	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT
IHE Delft	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation and monitoring, action research, Holistic ecosystem based frameworks - Coordination
TUHH	Innovation of NBS design and evaluation - flood risk mitigation, Innovations and lead user management, action research, demo cluster DE
TAUW BV	Innovation of NBS design, exploitation, landscape design and planning, Demonstrator cluster NL
IUCN	Dissemination/ communication, sustainable use of natural resources
EUROSENSE	Monitoring technologies and practice
NCKU	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation- assessment of flood risk mitigation, Local partner Collaborator TW
UIBK	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, Local partner Demonstrator AT
DTU	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, economics of NBS
FHH	Responsible Authority - GER Demonstrator, policy forming
ACA	Responsible Authority - SP Demonstrator
HYDS	Monitoring, ICT platform
UNEXE	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, health aspects, Holistic ecosystem based frameworks, Serious Game
MON	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, Local partner AU and MA collaborators
GISIG	Dissemination and communication, Demonstrator Cluster IT
ERCE PAN	Environmental impacts; Collaborator Cluster PL
Warsz	Responsible Authority Collaborator PL
Amphi	Biodiversity, natural capital, Demo. Cluster DK
Unbelgr	Local partner SR/CRO Collaborator
PRONING	Local partner SR/CRO Collaborator
HAI	Monitoring, Innovation of NBS design
BDCA	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, Collaborator Cluster BG
UNSA	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation
Ramboll	Exploitation of results, Innovation of NBS design, landscape planning, EIA
Portofino	Responsible Authority Demonstrator IT (Demonstrator cluster)
CNR	Demonstrator cluster IT
Odense	Responsible Authority Demonstrator IT (Demonstrator cluster)
Varna	Responsible Authority - BG (Collaborator Cluster)
IWACons	Local Partner SR Collaborator
UFZ	SIA, Social Innovation (Co-creation), policy forming
EAWAG	Local partner CH Demonstrator
SEI	Social Innovation (Co-creation), EIA

Annex 2 – Demonstrators and Collaborators

Legend

SS: Storm Surge F: Floods LS: landslide Dr: Droughts CL: Demonstrators and collaborators clusters

* Letters of support from the responsible agencies provided

DEMONSTRATOR A: CO-CREATION OF LARGE-SCALE NBS WITH MONITORING & EVALUATION (M&E)

RECONCET cases/cluster	Geography & climate & type of HM events	Problem description/NBS activities	Innovation, upscaling & mainstreaming potential (and funding)
DA-1: Elbe Estuary/The Federal State of Hamburg, Germany CL: FHH, TUHH	Northern EU Maritime, North Sea SS, F, Dr	Management of complex river/estuarine systems addressing the flooding and dry periods Enhancing and optimising the retention capacity in the rivers and flood plains Smart operation system	Reconnecting droughts and flood challenges, overcoming the piecemeal approach utilising high technology and NBS EC Co-fund in RECONNECT
DA-2: Seden Strand, Odense, Danmark CL: Odense, Amphi, Ramboll	Northern EU Humid and continental climate SS	Flood risk in a coastal suburban community Room for the river, recreation of meanders, and promoting “self-design” rehabilitation process Wetlands Monitoring and Evaluation	Similar reclaimed land can be found at many other locations in Denmark and within the EU (both in the north and south) Own construction budget and EC Co-funding in RECONNECT
DA-3: Tordera River Basin, Spain CL: ACA, HYDS	Southern EU Mountainous and Mediterranean F, Dr	Mountainous and coastal floods Room for the river though various types of NBS envisaged within the “dike management plan”	Upscaling within Catalonia (e.g. Ter and Munga river) via the responsible Catalanian Authority Own Construction Budget+ Requesting the EC Co-fund in RECONNECT

DA-4: Portofino Park , Italy <i>CL: Portofino, CNR, GISIG</i>	Southern EU Mediterranean F, LS	Mountainous a coastal floods; landslides Slope stabilisation with NBS such as the recreation of natural terraces and bioengineering	Mainstreaming into the plan for the Portofino park community; typical landscapes for the Mediterranean region EC Co-fund in RECONNECT
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DEMONSTRATOR B: MONITORING & EVALUATION (M&E) OF THE ALREADY IMPLEMENTED NBS

RECONNECT cases/cluster	Geography & climate & type of HM events	Problem description/NBS activities	Innovation, upscaling & mainstreaming potential
DB-1: IJssel River Basin , The Netherlands <i>CL: Tauw, WDOOD</i>	Western EU F	Room for the river implemented through removing of obstacles, bypasses and enhancing the retention capacity Monitoring and Evaluation	Flagship project of the Dutch government and the EU, demonstrating best practices in design, operation, maintenance and upscaling within the EU and internationally
DB-2: Inn River Basin , Austria <i>CL: UIBK*, BOKU-MET</i>	Central EU, Continental and mountainous F, LS	Flood risk, landslides, reforestation, large scale retentions and green spaces developed and implemented over years	Sophisticated monitoring methodology High upscaling potential for mountainous catchments <i>(LOS form the key local partners and authorities)</i>
DB-3: Greater Aarhus , Denmark <i>CL: AAKS, Amphi, DTU</i>	Northern EU, Humid and continental F, SS	Flood risk Multi-purpose wetlands and lakes (to address water quality and flood risk reduction) Monitoring and Evaluation	Best practices on mainstreaming NBS into the policy: <i>The Aarhus Municipal Climate Adaptation Plan</i>
DB-4: Thur River Basin Switzerland <i>CL: Eawag*</i>	Mid-EU, Continental F, Dr	Mountainous area with high flood risk River restoration, retention areas, existing monitoring infrastructure with ongoing activities	Extrapolation of the sophisticated monitoring method and technology (self-learning monitoring system linked to a real time distributed model) to other catchments
DB-5: Les Boucholeurs , France	Western EU Atlantic	Coastal floods (Xynthia) Multi-purpose wetlands (oyster farming risk)	Combining the post flood recovery and NBS

CL: UNSA*		reduction) and engineering solutions (hybrid configuration)	
DB-6: Var River Basin, France CL: UNSA*	Southern EU Mediterranean <i>F, Dr</i>	Mountainous and coastal floods Green dikes, combining the increase in retention capacity with the enhancement of habitats	Eco Valley flagship project of the French Government. Snowballing the process within France and beyond Mainstreaming hydro-meteorological risk reduction with the energy efficiency strategies

EU COLLABORATORS: UPTAKE AND EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE, PREFEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NBS; UPSCALING

RECONCET cases/cluster	Geography & climate & type of HM events	Problem description/NBS activities	Key topics of interest, mainstreaming and upscaling potential
EC1: Kamchia River Basin (with Estuary), Bulgaria CL: BDCA, Varna	South Eastern EU Continental <i>F, SS</i>	Frequent flooding Green dikes, wetlands restoration, afforestation-co-creation (implementation) Monitoring and Evaluation	Lessons learned on co-creation, mainstreaming of NBS at the national and regional level, and upscaling to the basin level through the involvement of the Black Sea Basin Directorate (letter of support provided) Co-funding for implementation envisaged via National Operational Programme Environment 2014-2020 and Black Sea River Basin Management Plan 2016-2020
EC2: Pilica River Basin, focus on the Luciaza river, Poland CL: Warsz, ERCE PAN	Eastern EU Continental <i>F</i>	Mountainous floods leading to high risk of dike failure Macro-levelling and restoration of reservoirs	Lessons learned on co-creation, mainstreaming of NBS into the regional policy or Regional Operational Programs Further upscaling within 29 Catchments, which Warsz is in charge of
EC3a: Bosut River Basin, Croatia CL: PRONNING, Unbelgr*	South Eastern EU Continental <i>F, Dr</i>	Floods in mountainous to low-lying sensitive areas, Transboundary issues Increasing the capacity of the river	Lessons learned on co-creation can be upscaled within the region and at the river basin level (mainly through the involvement of the Sava Commission) Lessons learned on the management of transboundary rivers Funding schemes for NBS
EC3b: Drina River Basin, Serbia			
EC3c: Kolubara River Basin, Serbia			

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORS - UPTAKE AND EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE FROM THE EU DEMONSTRATORS

RECONCET cases/cluster	Geography & climate & type of HM events	Problem description/NBS activities	Key topics of interest, mainstreaming and upscaling potential
IC-1: Chao Phraya River Basin, Thailand	Wet monsoon climate <i>F, Dr</i>	Room for the river type of measures (by-passes)	Extending the “room for the river” portfolio
IC-2: Greater Tainan Coastline, Taiwan <i>CL: HAIL, IHE*</i>	Marine and tropical SS	Redesign of coastal protection measures and recovery of the natural coastline (e.g. using innovative natural materials instead of tetrapodes)	High upscaling potential for coastlines with extreme hydrometeorologic conditions worldwide
IC3: Rio do Couves, Brazil <i>CL: TUHH</i>	Humid subtropical climate <i>F, Dr</i>	Solving the water supply and flood risk problems in large catchments and large cities (Sao Paolo) utilising hybrid solutions	How much and how to invest in order to increase the water supply and ensure flood resilience within the context of climate change Willingness to pay for ecosystem services and innovative funding schemes
IC4: Klang River Basin, Malaysia			
IC5: Yangtze River Basin, China			
IC6: Chindwin River Basin, Myanmar			
IC7: Tarago River Basin, Australia			
IC8: Trinity River Basin, USA			
IC9: San Francisco Bay Delta, USA			
IC10: Piura River Basin, Peru			
IC11: Rio Frio, Colombia /Magdalena			
IC12: Cañaveralejo, Lili and Melendez			

River Basins, Colombia /Cali			
IC13: The Coastline of St. Maarten, The Caribbean			

Annex 3 – Communities of Practice Connected to RECONNECT

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes:										
		Communities description										
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	
		Disaster risk management	Climate change	Nature Based Solutions	Water management	Biodiversity	Innovation (includes ICT)	Earth Observation	Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders	Insurance	Financing	
IHE Delft	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation and monitoring, modelling of NBS, action research, Holistic eco system based frameworks -Coordination	*Netherlands Centre for River Studies (NCR)										
IHE Delft		*Netherlands Centre for Coastal Studies (NCK)	x									
IHE Delft		*International Hydrological Programme (IHP)										
IHE Delft		*Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment (SENSE)										
		*Boussinesq Center for Hydrology										
		*Netherlands Centre for Coastal Studies (NCK)										
		*Co-operative Programme on Water and Climate (CPWC)										
		*International Hydrological Programme (IHP)										
		*Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment (SENSE)										
		*Netherlands Centre for River Studies (NCR)										
		*Netherlands Centre for Coastal Studies (NCK)										
		*CAP-Net UNDP. Specially with sub-networks:										
		**Arab Integrated Water Resources Management Network - AWARENET										
		**Latin American Water Education and Training Network - LAWETNET										
		**WaterNet										
		**Nile Basin Capacity Building Network										
		**Collaborative Knowledge Network Indonesia - CKNet-INA										

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes:									
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
		Communities description									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		*Valorisation Programme Delta technology and water VPdelta *Boussinesq Center for Hydrology *Netherlands Centre for River Studies (NCR) *Netherlands Centre for Coastal Studies (NCK) *Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP) *International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC) *International Hydrological Programme (IHP)									
IHE Delft		*Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment (SENSE) *Boussinesq Center for Hydrology				X					
IHE Delft		*Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment (SENSE) *Netherlands Centre for Coastal Studies (NCK) *Netherlands Centre for River Studies (NCR)						X			
IHE Delft		*Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP) *International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC)							X		
IHE Delft		*International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC)									X
TUHH	Innovation of NBS design and evaluation-flood risk mitigation, Innovations and lead user management, action research, demo cluster DE										
TAUW BV	Innovation of NBS design, exploitation, landscape design and planning, Demonstrator cluster NL	Climate cities organization (national) and www.GCA.org		X							

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes: 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing	Communities description											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
TAUW BV		Ecoshape			x									
TAUW BV		Rioned, stowa				x								
TAUW BV		NWP, stowa, rioned									x			
IUCN	Dissemination/ communication, standardisation	Commission on Ecosystem Management			x		x							
IUCN		Commission on Education and Communication									x			
IUCN		Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy	x	x	x	x	x				x			
IUCN		World Commission on Protected Areas			x		x							
EUROSENSE	Monitoring technologies and practice	EARSC (European Association of Remote Sensing Companies); DGPF (German Association for Geoinformation and Photogrammetry); VRI (Flemish Space Industry); Wallonie Espace									x			
NCKU	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation-assessment of flood risk mitigation, Local partner Collaborator TW													

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes:									
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
		Communities description									
UIBK	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, Local partner Demonstrator AT	Torrent and Avalanche Control									
UIBK		Austrian Panel on Climate Change (https://www.ccca.ac.at/en/climate-knowledge/apcc/)									
UIBK		Austrian Research Center for Forests									
UIBK		Austrian Water and Waste Management Association; Austrian Association for Gas and Water									
DTU	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, economics of NBS	IAHS Panta Rhei WG on Changes in Flood Risk									
DTU		Danish Water and Waste Water Association									
FHH	Responsible Authority- GER Demonstrator, policy forming										
ACA	Responsible Authority- SP Demonstrator	Part of Spanish Working Group on Floods Catalan Civil Protection Association of Camp Sites in the Tordera Delta Partners of the ANYWHERE H2020 Project									

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes: 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing	Communities description											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
ACA		Part of Climate Change Office of Catalonia ISACC TorDelta Project Life Pletera Project		X										
ACA		Relation with Department of Territory and Sustainability of Catalonia. Tordera-Besòs Consortium Exchange and collaboration with the Forest Science and Technology Centre of Catalonia			X									
ACA		Relation with Spanish Basin authorities				X								
ACA		Relation with Department of Territory and Sustainability of Catalonia. Tordera-Besòs Consortium					X							
ACA		Part of Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA) Relation with Department of Territory and Sustainability of Catalonia. Spanish R+D+I Group on Floods						X						
ACA		Catalan Institute of Cartography and Geology							X					
ACA		Relation with the Spanish Insurance Compensation Consortium through the Spanish Working Group on Floods										X		
HYDS	Monitoring, ICT platform	ANYWHERE (H2020 Project: http://anywhere-h2020.eu)	X											

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes: 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing	Communities description											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
UNEXE	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, health aspects, Holistic eco system based frameworks, Serious Game													
MON	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, Local partner AU and MA collaborators													
GISIG	Dissemination and communication, Demonstrator Cluster IT	Genoa coordinator of climate change urban agenda, Climate Kic		x										
GISIG		INSPIRE Directive					x							
GISIG		ICT4Water (connections through Exeter) - GISIG; Copernicus community (Copernicus Academy Network, Copernicus National (Italian) User Forum); EO4GEO project							x					
ERCE PAN	Environmental impacts; Collaborator Cluster PL	UNESCO's IHP Ecohydrology programme			x									
ERCE PAN		UNESCO's IHP Ecohydrology programme				x								
Warsz	Responsible Authority Collaborator PL	FRAMWAT partners (interreg project https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/FramWat.html)			x									

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes: 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing	Communities description												
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Amphi	Biodiversity, natural capital, Demo. Cluster DK														
Unbelgr	Local partner SR/CRO Collaborator	International Sava River Basin Commission, WWF Adria		x											
Unbelgr		WWF Adria			x										
Unbelgr		International Sava River Basin Commission, Public Water Company "Srbijavode"				x									
PRONING	Local partner SR/CRO Collaborator														
HAI	Monitoring, Innovation of NBS design	Department of disaster prevention and mitigation of Thailand	x												
HAI		National institute for hydro-informatics in Thailand				x									
HAI		Hydro-informatics							x						
HAI		GISTDA								x					

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes: 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing	Communities description											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
HAIL		Community water resources management										x		

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes: 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing	Communities description											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
BDCA	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation, Collaborator Cluster BG	Regional Administration of Varna District; Black Sea Basin Directorate - Ministry of Environment and Water	x											
BDCA		National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology; WWF Bulgaria		x										

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes:																		
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.									
		1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing																		
		Communities description	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10								
BDCA		Black Sea Basin Directorate; Kamcia Protected Area			X															
BDCA		Black Sea Basin Directorate-Ministry of Environment and Water (MEW)				X														
BDCA		WWF Bulgaria; Institute of Fisheries; Institute of Biodiversity					X													
BDCA		Regional Agency of Innovation and Entrepreneurship of Varna (RAPIV)						X												
BDCA		EMODNet							X											
BDCA		Black Sea Basin Directorate - MEW									X									
UNSA	Innovation of NBS design, evaluation																			

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes:									
		Communities description									
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
		1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing									
Ramboll	Exploitation of results, Innovation of NBS design, landscape planning, EIA Copenhagen Municipality. Frederiksberg Municipality. Copenhaguen's Utility Company (HOFOR). Denmark.	Copenhagen Municipality. Frederiksberg Municipality. Copenhaguen's Utility Company (HOFOR). Denmark.	x								
Ramboll		Asian Development Bank. Financing Low-Carbon, Climate-Resilient Urban Infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific: Technical Assistance comprising, among other things, the use of downscaled climate data and GHG emissions to inform city-level decision-making on infrastructure investments as well as different financing modalities, incl. climate finance.		x							
Ramboll		National Parks Board, Singapore. Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park. Converting old concrete infrastructure into a natural river, incl. landscape redesign to account for hydrometeorological risks and increase resilience in the community.			x						
Ramboll		The European Commission. Blue2 study: Assistance for better policy-making on freshwater and marine environment. Aiming at understanding the full value of water and water services and how water resources contribute to economic development and citizens' well-being. Development of a framework for the integrated socio-economic assessment of policies affecting the quality of the freshwater and marine environment, to be applied with the work done by the Commission's Joint Research Centre				x					
Ramboll		Longmont city, Colorado, USA. The Saint Vrain Creek Coalition - Apple Valley North Restoration Project. Restoration of river function and habitat, increasing ecosystem resilience incl. aquatic, riparian and wildland habitat along the river banks					x				

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	<p style="text-align: right;">Themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing 	Communities description											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Ramboll		Copenhagen Municipality. Hans Tavsens Park and Korsgade, Denmark "The Soul of Nørrebro". A NBS project, winner of the 2016 Nordic Built Cities Challenge Award, with a strong social innovation component and a clear path towards integrated and sustainable urban development							X					
Ramboll		Fredensborg Municipality and Realdania. "The Blue-Green Garden City", Kokkedal, north of Copenhagen, Denmark. A climate adaptation project that will improve local residents' every life in a holistic manner: environmentally, socially and culturally. The project fosters social cohesion through an inclusive approach to stakeholder engagement, combining flood management, recreational values, innovative urban development and sustainable stormwater management. The project helps ensuring the necessary local commitment to achieve ownership at the community level									X			
Ramboll		European Commission. Directorate-General for Climate Action. Directorate A — International and Mainstreaming. Unit A.3 - Adaptation. "Insurance of weather and climate-related disaster risk: Inventory and analysis of mechanisms to support damage prevention in the EU". Ramboll conducted an inventory of existing coverage of insurance mechanisms, looking at how effective they are in terms of incentivising risk reduction and decreasing damage cost and then used the findings to set out future options for policy makers and stakeholders. The study builds on the EU Adaptation Strategy and the Green Paper on the insurance of natural and man-made disasters											X	
Ramboll		Asian Development Bank. Financing Low-Carbon, Climate-Resilient Urban Infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific: Technical Assistance comprising, among other things, the use of downscaled climate data and GHG emissions to inform												X

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes:										
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing 										
		Communities description	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		city-level decision-making on infrastructure investments as well as different financing modalities, incl. climate finance.										
Portofino	Responsible Authority Demonstrator IT (Demonstrator cluster)	EUROPARC					X					
CNR	Demonstrator cluster IT											
Odense	Responsible Authority Demonstrator IT (Demonstrator cluster)	KTC - The member organisation for technical managers within Danish municipalities	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Odense	Responsible Authority Demonstrator IT (Demonstrator cluster)	Regional as well as national network for environmental employees within the public sector			x	x	x					
Odense	Responsible Authority Demonstrator IT (Demonstrator cluster)	The green council - Odense Municipality's local council			x	x	x					
Odense	Responsible Authority Demonstrator IT (Demonstrator cluster)	Kommunernes Landsforening - The member organisation for all municipalities in Denmark - policy makers	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Varna	Responsible Authority- BG (Collaborator Cluster)											

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes: 1. Disaster risk management 2. Climate change 3. Nature Based Solutions 4. Water management 5. Biodiversity 6. Innovation (includes ICT) 7. Earth Observation 8. Public participation and collaboration between stakeholders 9. Insurance 10. Financing	Communities description											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
IWACons	Local Partner SR Collaborator	Public Utility Company "Srbijavode" - national water management body, Republic of Serbia; Public Utility Company "Vode Srpske" - regional water management body, Republic of Srpska / Bosnia and Herzegovina				x								
IWACons		Public Utility Company "Srbijašume" - national forestry management body, Republic of Serbia;					x							
UFZ	SIA, Social Innovation (Co-creation), policy forming													
EAWAG	Local partner CH Demonstrator	Agency for the Environment Canton Thurgau; Swiss Federal Office for the Environment; Swiss River Network				x								
EAWAG		Swiss Federal Office for the Environment							x					
EAWAG		Thur group (water manager group of the Thur River Catchment)									x			
SEI	Social Innovation (Co-creation), EIA													
AAKS	Responsible Authority Demonstrator (Demonstrator cluster)													

Consortium partners	Core expertise and contribution in RECONNECT	Themes:									
		Communities description									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Inter Act	ICT platform, expert in smart city & environment, (partner)						x				
Inter Act									x		

