



Community of Practice for NBS in water management

Global Water Partnership
Central and Eastern Europe

9th Danube Participation Day, 18 October 2022

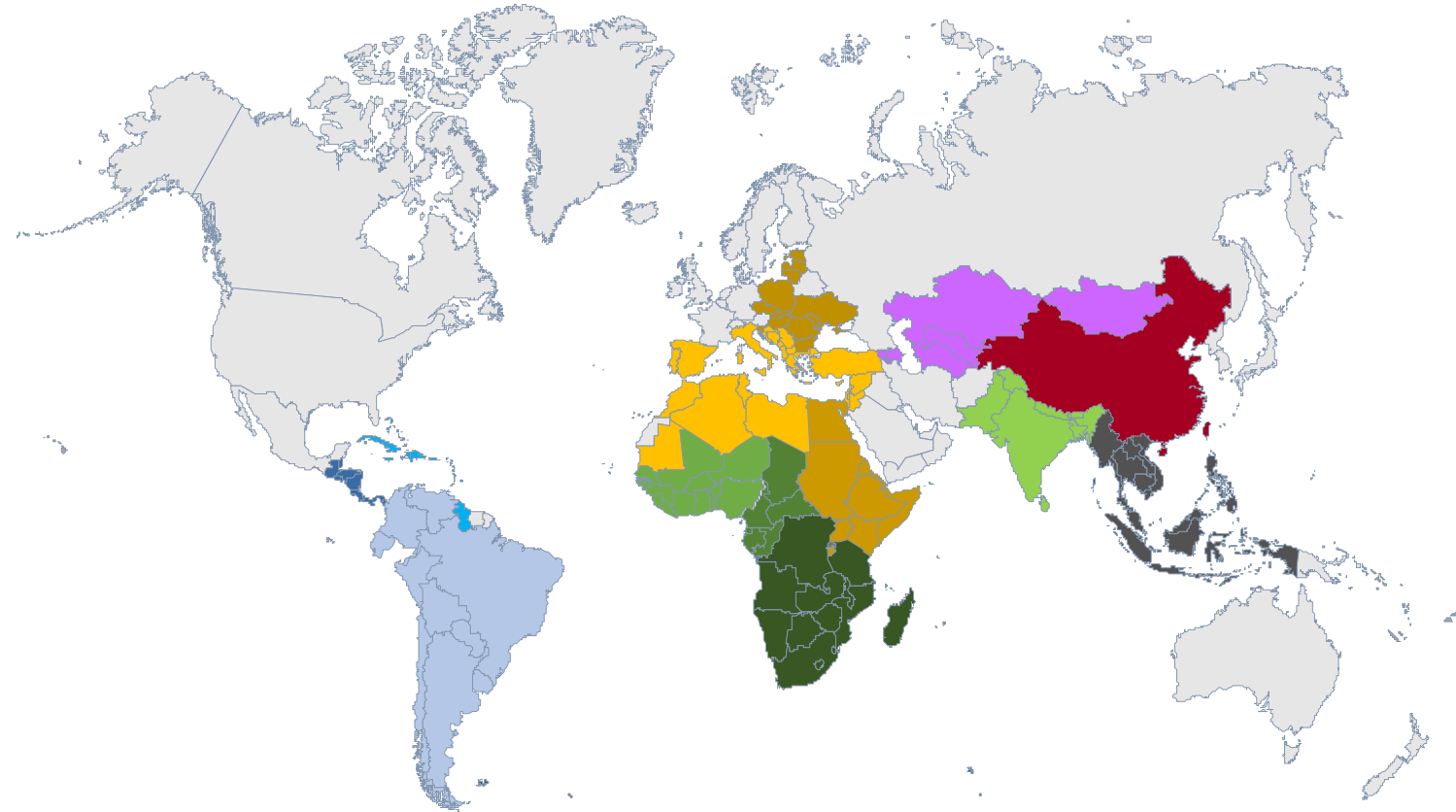



Global Water Partnership
















We are a diverse, inclusive, multi-stakeholder partnership with 21 years of experience, pioneering and practicing an integrated approach to water resources management (**IWRM**)

Multi-Stakeholders perspective + Knowledge => influence **policies, practices & investments** for a water secure world



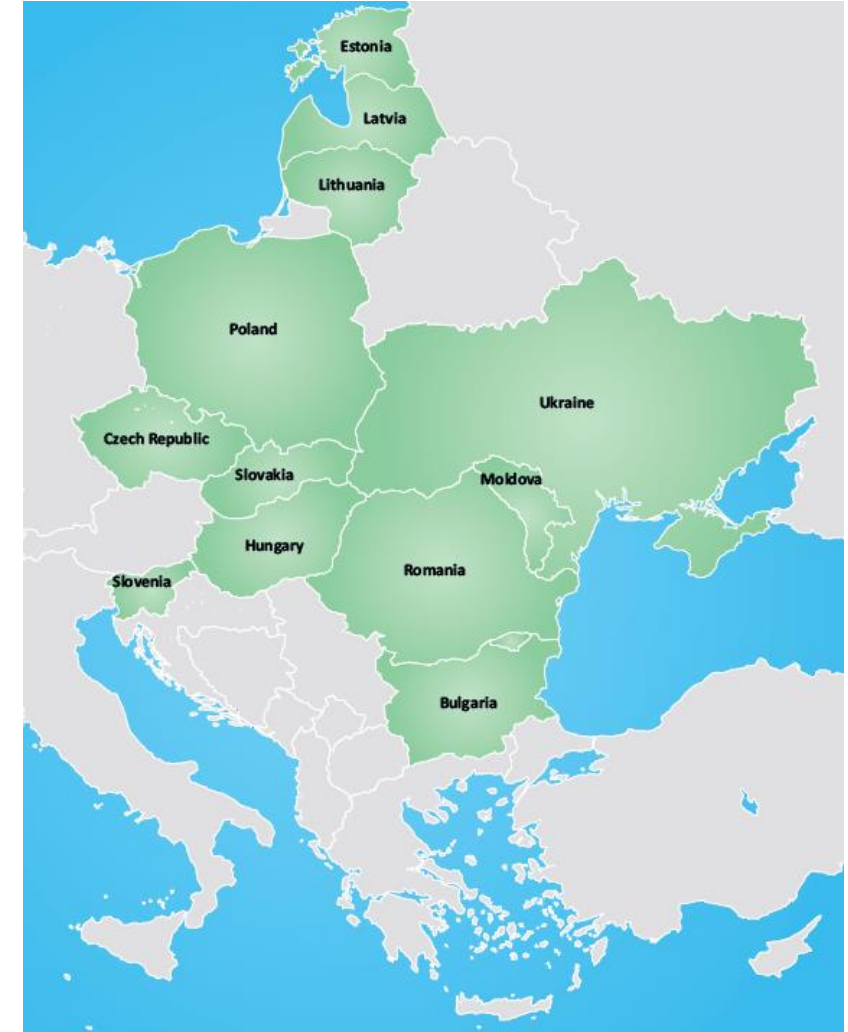
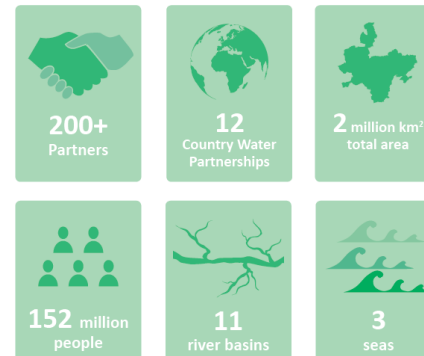
 Global Water Partnership

3,000+ partner orgs from 183 countries ;
86 Country Water Partnerships across **13** RWPs

 Central America	 West Africa	 Central & Eastern Europe	 South Asia
 Carribeans	 Central Africa	 Mediterranean	 South-East Asia
 South America	 East Africa	 Central Asia & Caucasus	 China
	 South Africa		

GWP Central and Eastern Europe

- 10 countries in **Baltic** and **Danube** regions
- **Baltic region:** Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland
- **Danube region:** Bulgaria, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
- Population of 152 million people, a quarter of all Europeans// Total area of over 2.03 million km²
- More than 170 org.
- Founded in 1998
- Regional secretariat based in SVK
 - Projects, courses, youth...
 - Drought, floods, NBS
 - Stakeholders engagement



NBS Perspective

- **Importance of NBS solutions in general and in water challenges**

Their value and importance to address water challenges and to broader sustainable development and climate resilience is increasingly recognized.

Recognition on global and EU level – part of several EU and UN strategies.

- **Implementation lacking behind and still predominance of grey infrastructure**

Regulatory and policy barriers, potentially large physical footprint, inadequate financial models.

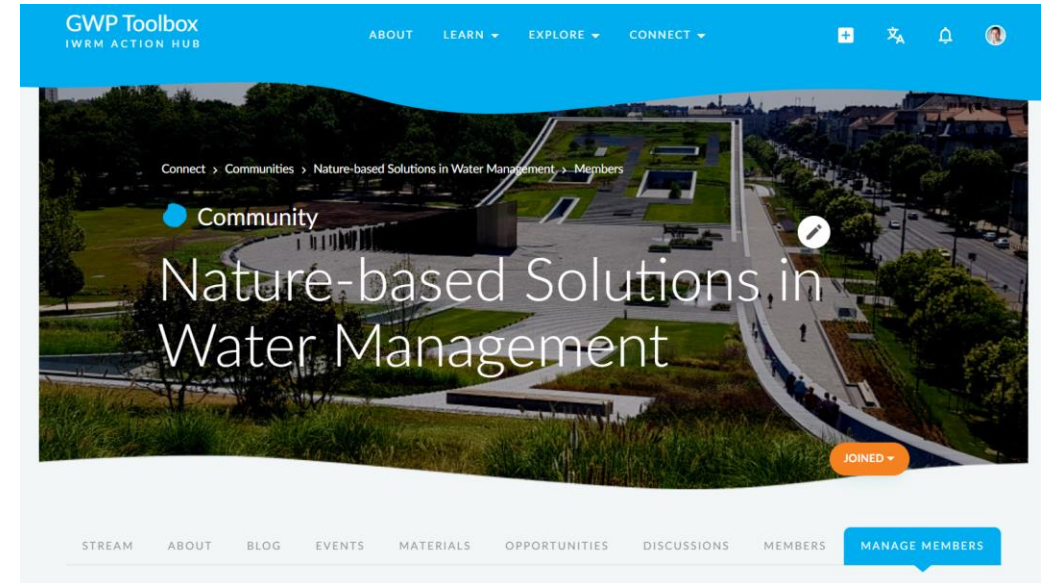
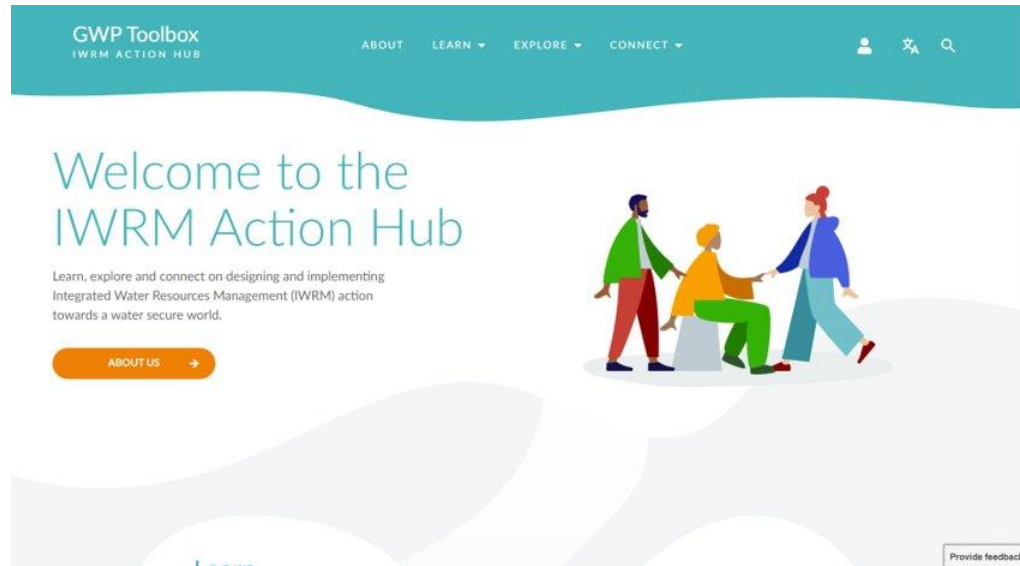
Lack of awareness, insufficient cross-sectoral exchange and knowledge fragmentation which all burdens a wider recognition and implementation of NBS

NBS Perspective

- NBS in GWP CEE region
 - Several water related issues: droughts, water retention, sanitation, water reuse, wetland restoration. Good cases in the regions
 - Shift from grey to green solutions and NBS in the CEE region in the past decade
 - Challenges – especially on legislative level (depending from country to country)
- CEE region as a potential NBS hub in the frame of GWP
 - Knowledge and expert resources
 - Several past and ongoing activities and projects related to NBS: FramWat, Optain, Circular City, Danube Floodplains, Danube4All, IDMP

Need and opportunity to develop environment to encourage discussions NBS challenges in water management on global level and in the Danube region

Online platform: IWRM Action Hub



www.gwptoolbox.org

“Tool that allows stakeholders to learn, explore and connect about different integrated water management actions. The tool, among other functions, also allows technical design and implementation of different online CoPs - an online environment that can foster networking, exchanges and discussions on the specific topics.”

Community Objectives

“Main goal of the CoP is to engage NBS experts, practitioners and other interested stakeholders from different sectors to discuss, debate and learn about NBS in water management and establish synergies with other sectors!”

- Encourage networking among experts and practitioners
- Reduce the gap among the experts and practitioners (implementation examples)
- Create the environment to discuss innovative ideas and develop new projects.
- Raise awareness among civil society and policy makers

Key target groups

- **Researchers and experts** from academic and research institutions, expert representatives of relevant NGOs dealing with water challenges...
- **Practitioners** from private and public sector: local authorities, consultants, technicians, planners (urban, water, agriculture, land management) ...
- **Project managers** working on projects related to NBS in water management
- **Others:** Youth (young professionals, students), other representatives of public authorities, other actors from the civil society, ...

Key topics

...but not limited to...

- **Droughts and floods** (NBS for drought management and water retention in landscapes, floodplain restoration)
- **Sustainable sanitation and water reuse** (sanitation in rural areas and small settlements, reuse of water in agriculture, reuse of nutrients and organic matter)
- **NBS in cities** (stormwater management, NBS for heat island mitigation, urban greenery etc.)

Activities

STREAM

ABOUT

BLOG

EVENTS

MATERIALS

OPPORTUNITIES

DISCUSSIONS

MEMBERS

- Launched November 2022
- Progressive start
- Some planned activities:
 - Promotion of ongoing activities: [projects](#), [articles](#), [studies](#), [news](#), [events](#)
 - Presentation of [case studies](#)
 - Organization of [webinars](#), [expert exchanges](#) on specific topics
 - [Interviews](#) with relevant experts
 - Announcement of relevant [calls for proposals](#), [tenders](#), [jobs](#)

Benefits for you

- **Network/Exchange** with other organizations, experts
- **Learn** about NBS practices from other regions
- **Promote** results of your work, events
- **Engage** in debates about NBS related challenges
- **Discuss** new ideas and develop new projects

How can you participate?

- **Register** to the gwptoolbox → www.gwptoolbox.org
- **Become member** of the community:
<https://www.gwptoolbox.org/group/naturebasedsolutions/>
- **Contact us:**
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darja.istenic@fgg.uni-lj.si