



# BeWater

Making society an active participant in  
water adaptation to global change

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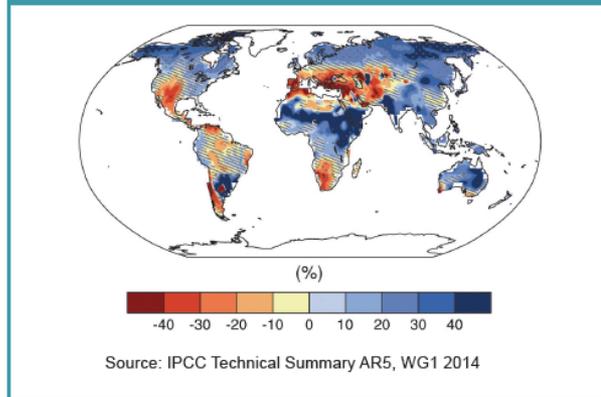
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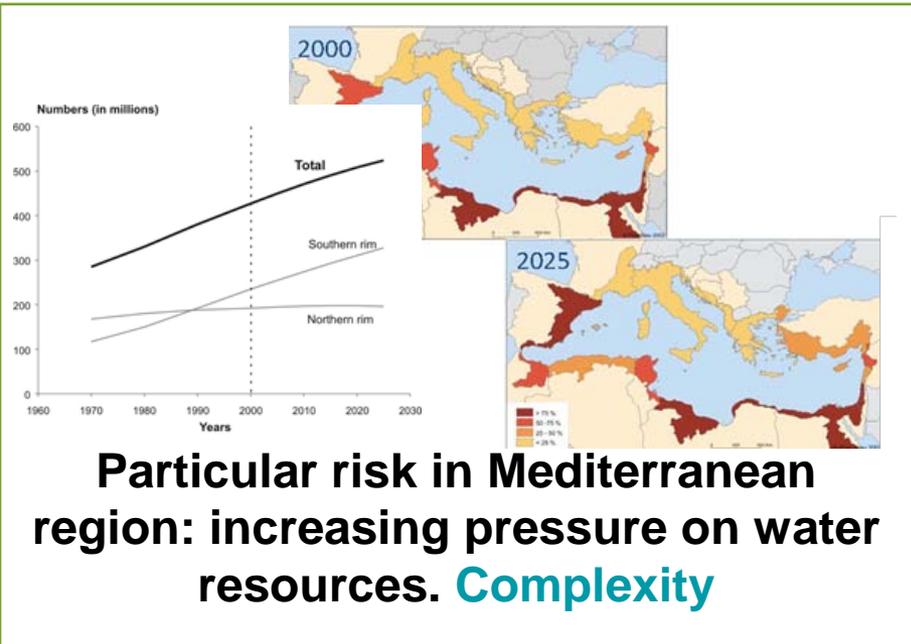
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# A collaborative response to Global Change

Runoff by the end of the 21st Century (RCP8.5: 2081-2100)



Global change threatens the whole society. **Uncertainty**

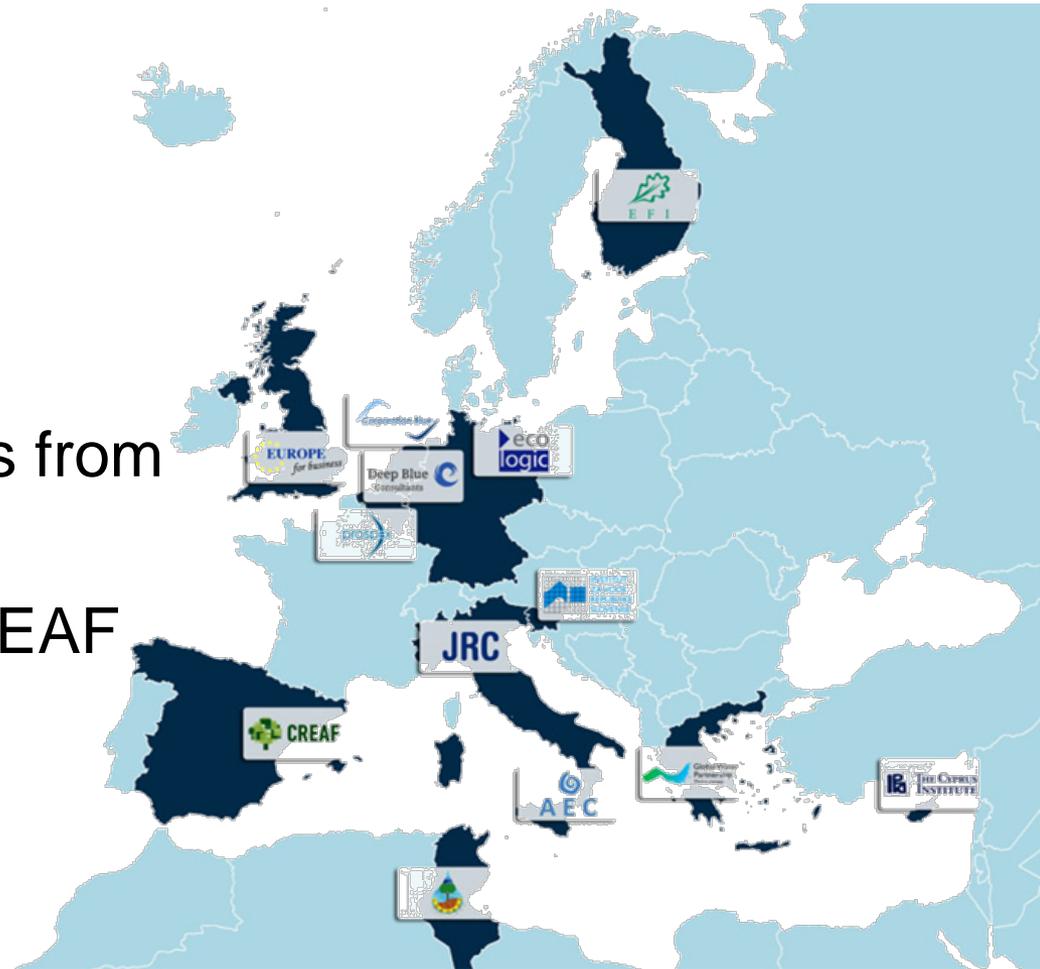


## ADAPTATION

Dialogue and collaboration between science and society  
Social awareness, empowerment and joint responsibility  
Bottom-up approach

# BeWater project overview

- Duration: 42 months
- Starting: 01/10/2013
- Consortium: 13 partners from 11 countries
- Project coordinator: CREAM



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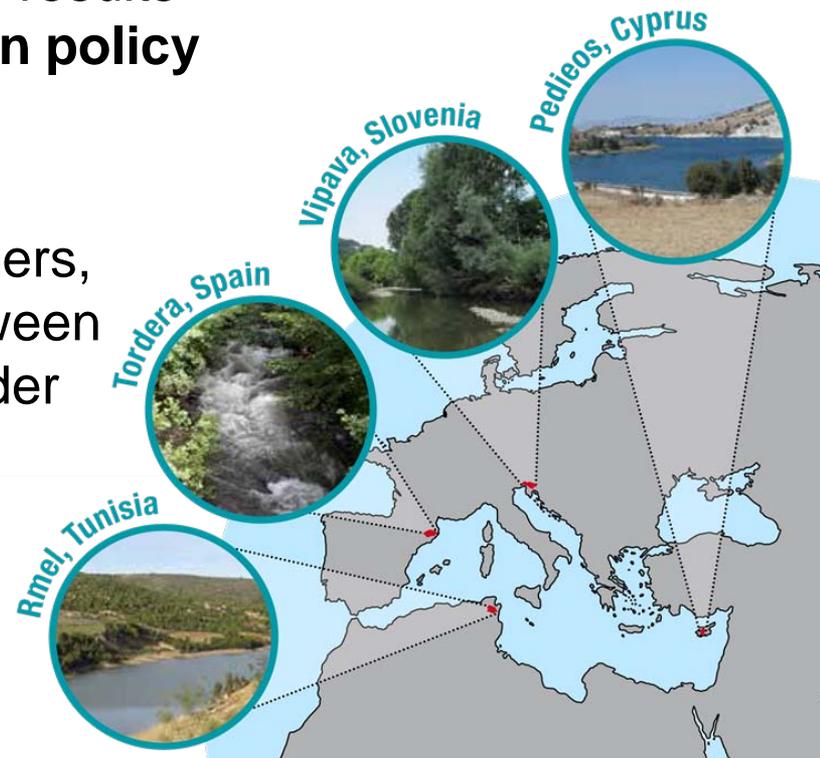
# BeWater project overview

Includes an **innovative, stakeholder-driven method** of societal transition towards a **less vulnerable** more **sustainable and adaptive river basin management**

Promotes the **transfer** of BeWater results **into management and adaptation policy**

Promotes **mutual and multi-directional learning** among partners, entities and actors within and between the river basins and with the broader society

Enhances **social participation** and builds **societal resilience**



# Research framework: Adaptive water management

Learning approach: continuous update and adjustment



Ecosystem based Management

# BeWater: building resilience

Dialogue and collaboration between science and society

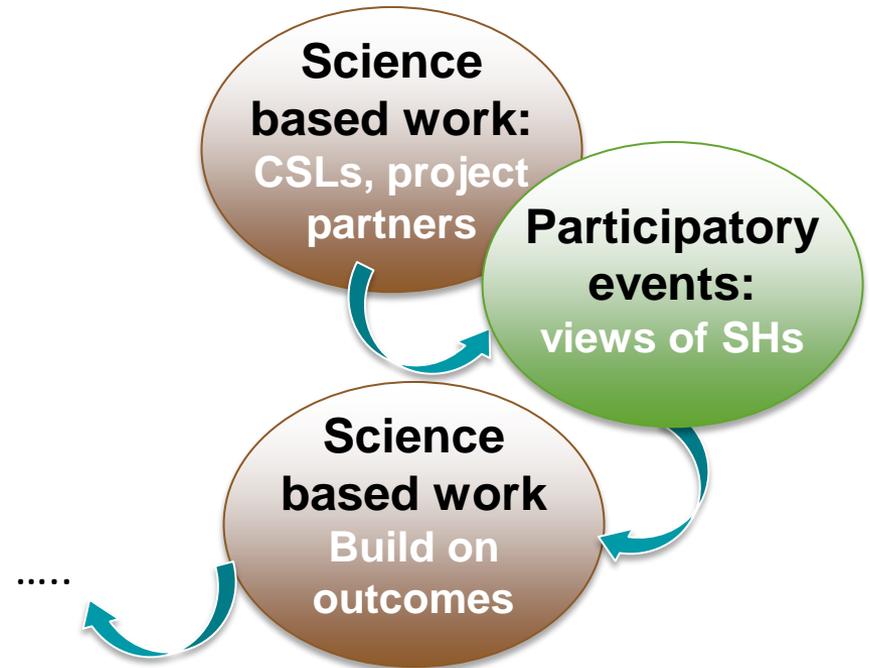
## Participatory methodology



**Co-creation** of specific Adaptive River Basin water management plans



## Iterative approach



**Outscaling** results to other areas

# The BeWater process



Assess the impacts of the options through the model

Which options have desirable impacts on the river basin?

Who is affected by or can affect the transition towards a more sustainable, resilient and adaptive river basin management?

Evaluate the options based on multiple decision criteria

Identify stakeholders for the river basin

What is the available scientific information on the current and future situation in the river basin?

Evaluate the role

Compile available

or existing policies in the implementation of the options

How could stakeholders be involved in the implementation of the options?

What do we want to achieve in the river basin?

information on climate change impacts and future trends

Which synergies or conflicts arise between the options and how can they be

Identify key stakeholders and their potential roles in implementing the options

Develop narratives on the current status and identify challenges of the river basin

How can the complexity of the river basin information be

grouped together?

Assess co-benefits and conflicts arising between options in order to group them in bundles

When should the options be implemented?

Develop a model for the river basin

Which are the options to achieve this?

Assess the

Formulate

Participation for: better diagnosis, better solutions and more consensus (sustainability of decisions)

water management options

How do these options affect

How can these options be integrated and

optimal timing for implementing the options

portrayed

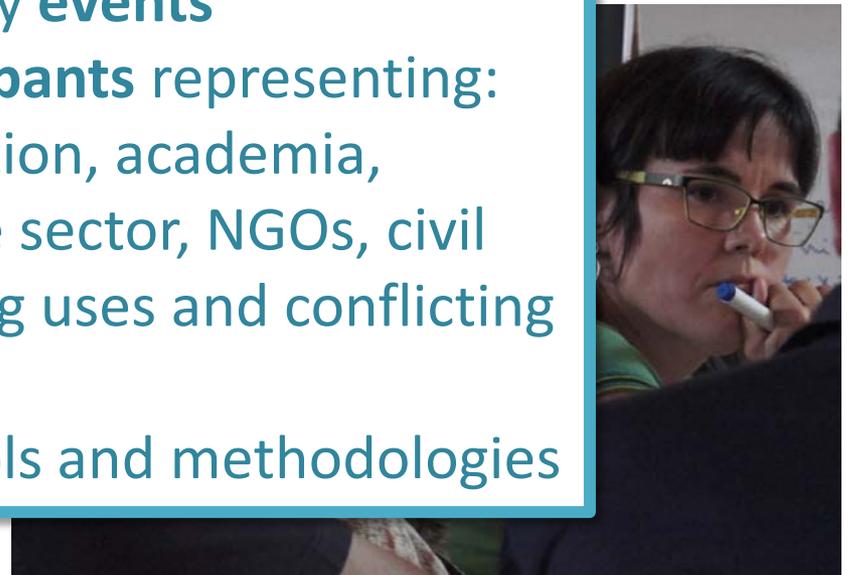
the options and decision frameworks

# Stakeholder workshops



A participatory and stakeholder-driven approach applied in 4 case studies:

- 16 RBAP co-production **workshops**
- 25 complementary **events**
- About **800 participants** representing: public administration, academia, education, private sector, NGOs, civil society. Competing uses and conflicting goals.
- Use of diverse tools and methodologies



# Problem scoping: Identify challenges and objectives



# Participated diagnosis: current and future state of the basins

## Science-based input information:

- Series of meteorological data
- Climate projections at regional scale
- Land use changes
- Demographical trends
- DPSIR analysis
- Biophysical and socio-economic vulnerability and impact analysis
- ...



## Stakeholders input information:

- Climate change impacts on local government, economic sectors, nature and quality of life for citizens.
- Drivers of global change in the basin
- Relationship between key factors characterizing the basin's dynamics
- Current and planned regional and local policies
- Citizen perceptions on current challenges
- Common vision on desired state
- ...

# River basins challenges

## Vipava (Slovenia):

- Water availability during droughts in growing season
- Flood risk reduction
- Appropriate water quality

## Rmel (Tunisia):

- Water quantity
- Water quality
- Agriculture
- Forest & biodiversity management
- Awareness of civil society
- Human resource and employment

## Tordera (Spain):

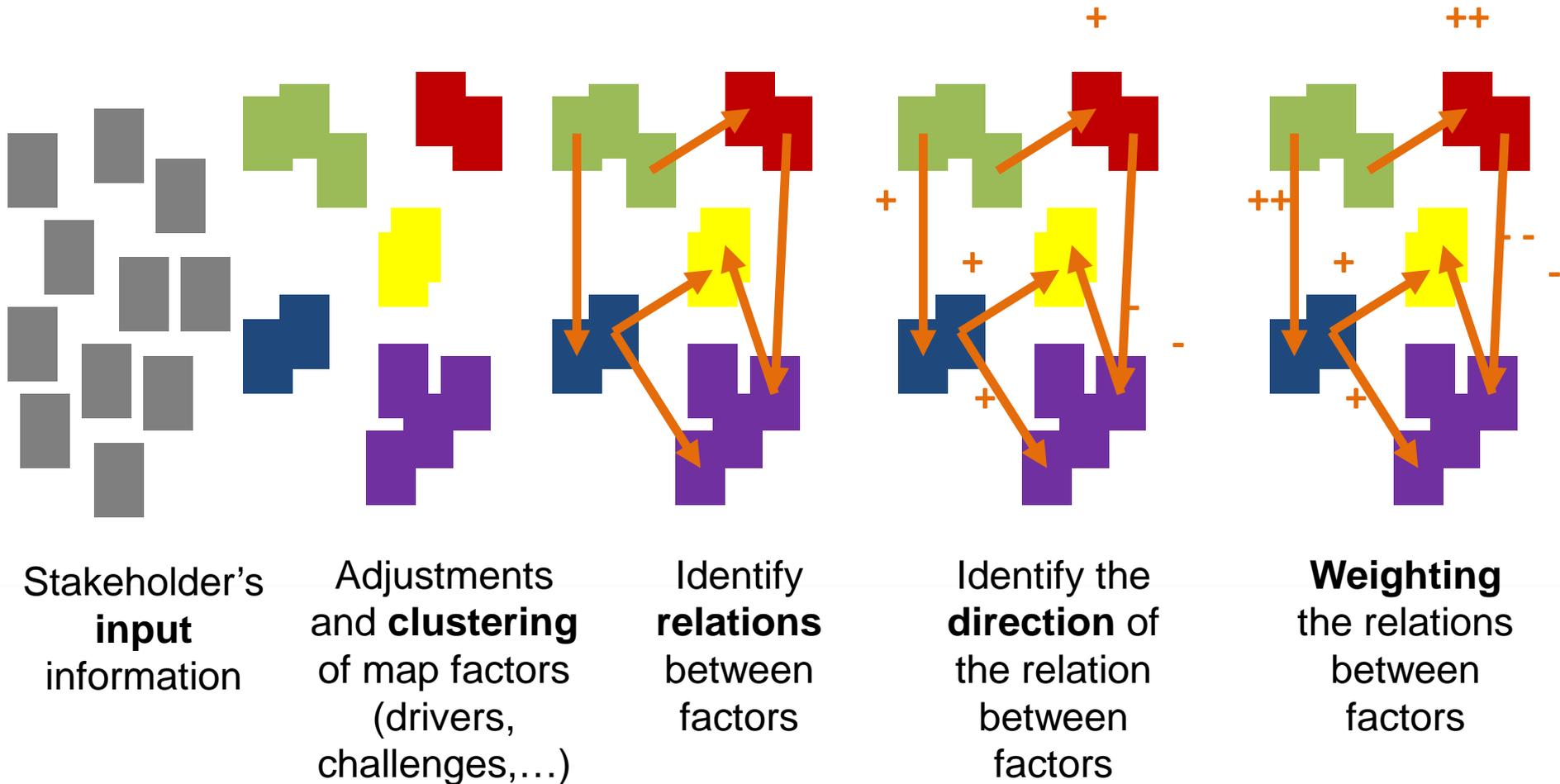
- Water quantity
- Water quality
- Health of forests & water ecosystems
- Integrated Water Management

## Pedieos (Cyprus):

- Quantitative and qualitative status of groundwater
- Quantitative and qualitative status of surface water
- Flooding from the river

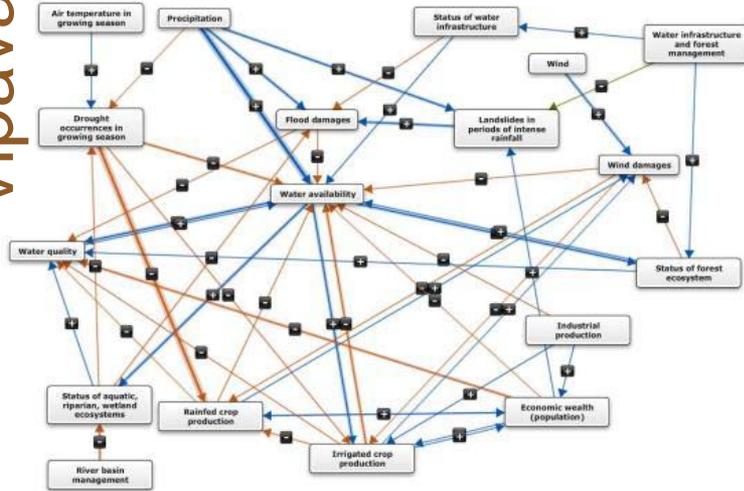
# Basin dynamics: Fuzzy Cognitive Maps

## Building the map

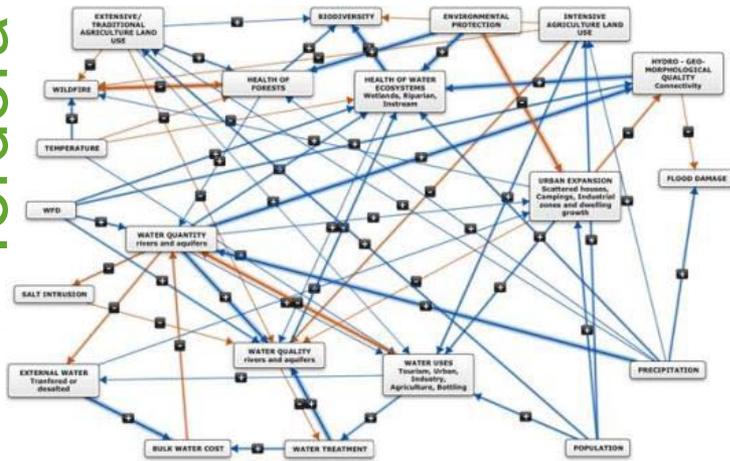


# Basin dynamics: Fuzzy Cognitive Maps

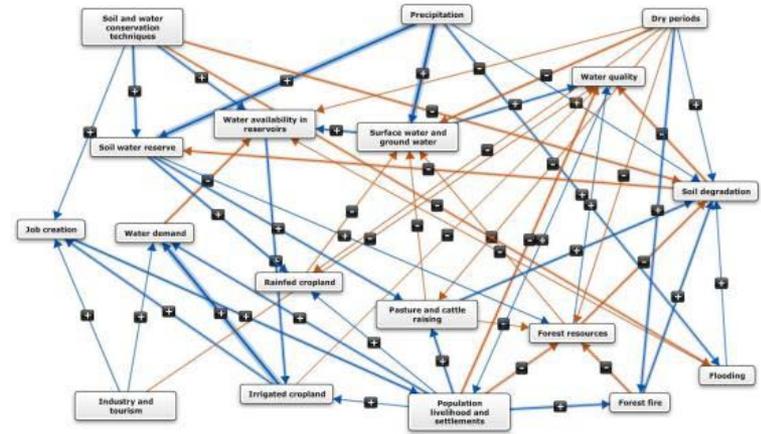
Vipava



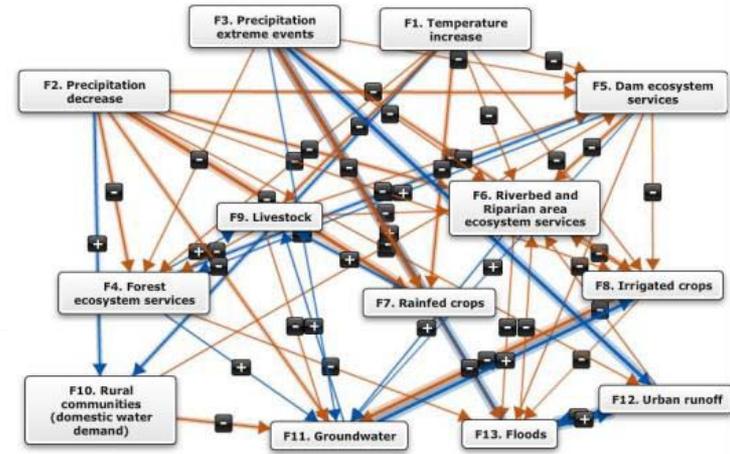
Tordera



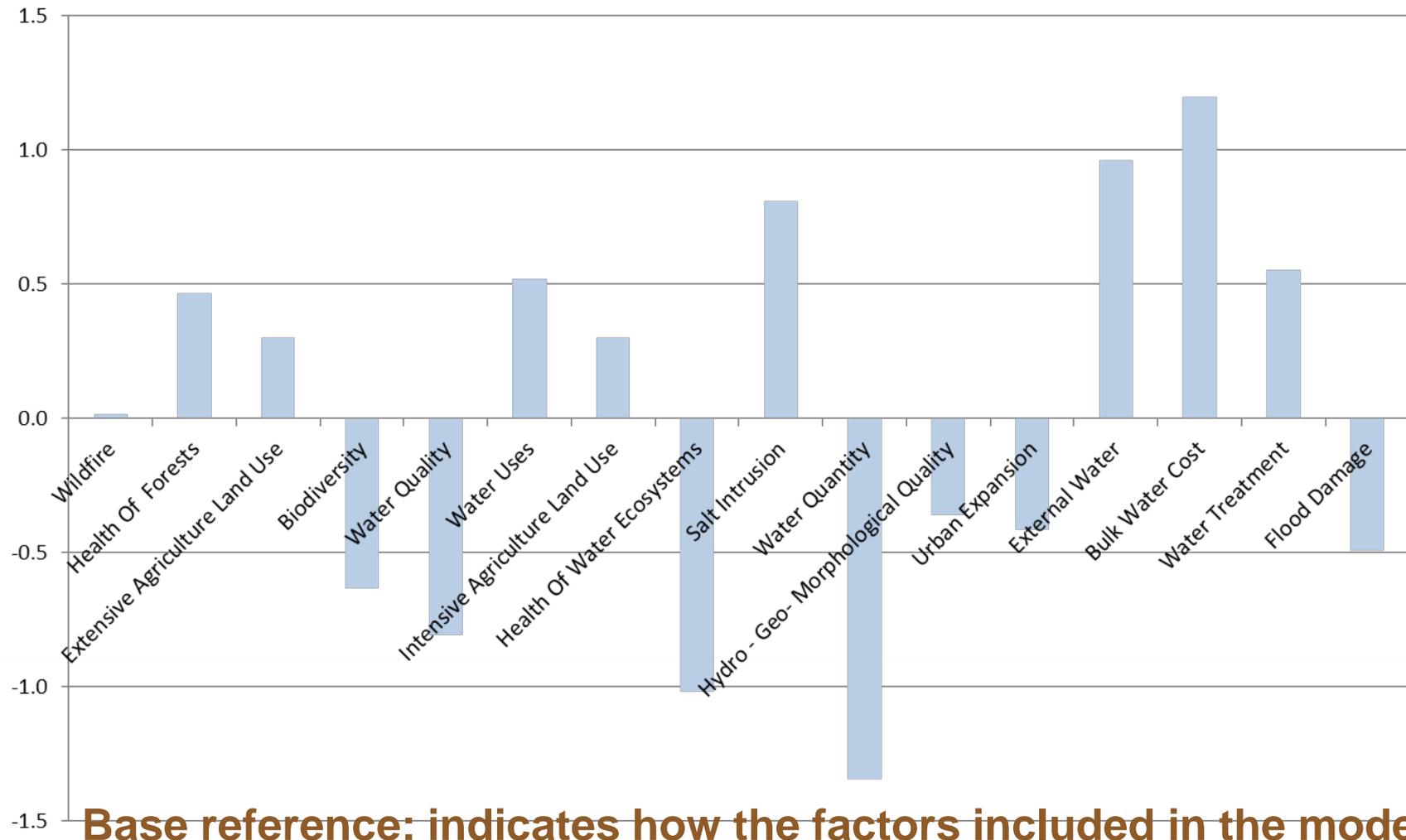
Rmel



Pedieços



# Results of the FCM: Model of the River basins dynamics



**Base reference: indicates how the factors included in the modeled map relate to each other.**

# Problem solving: Develop proposals



# Formulation of Water Management Options

## Outline

- General description
- Challenges targeted
- What and where

1st workshop

## Characterization

- Specific description
- Concrete actions
- typification and clustering of the measures

## Definition

- Fine-tuned set of options
- Comprehensive description including cost estimation and implementation oriented factors

2d workshop

# Challenges and solutions in Pedieos



## GROUNDWATER



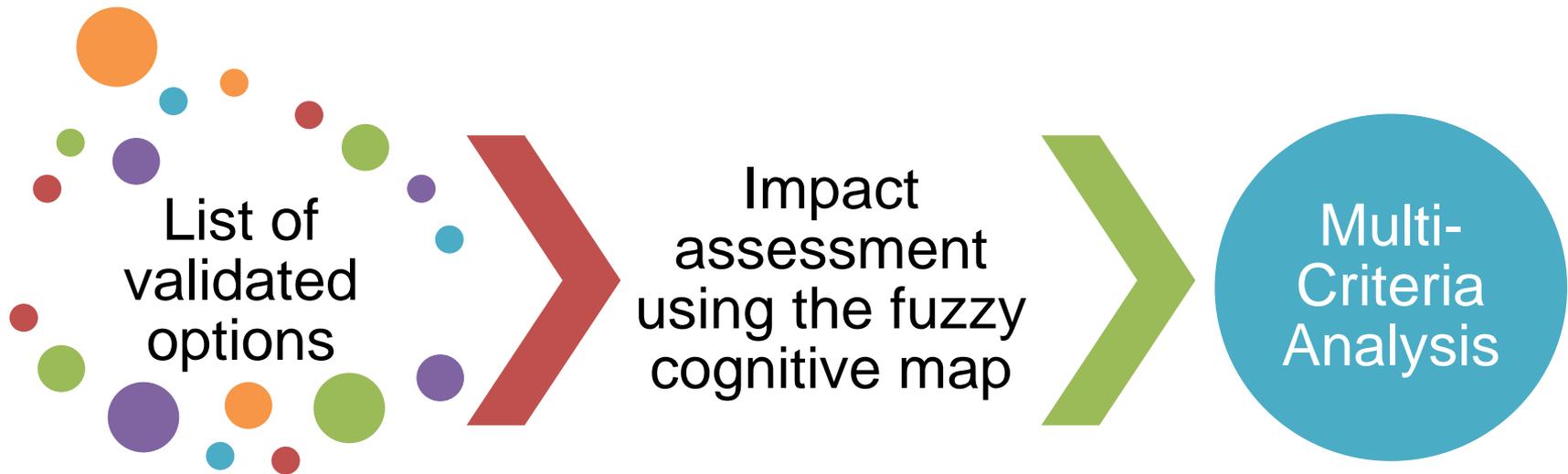
## SURFACE WATER



## FLOODING



# Evaluation of water management options



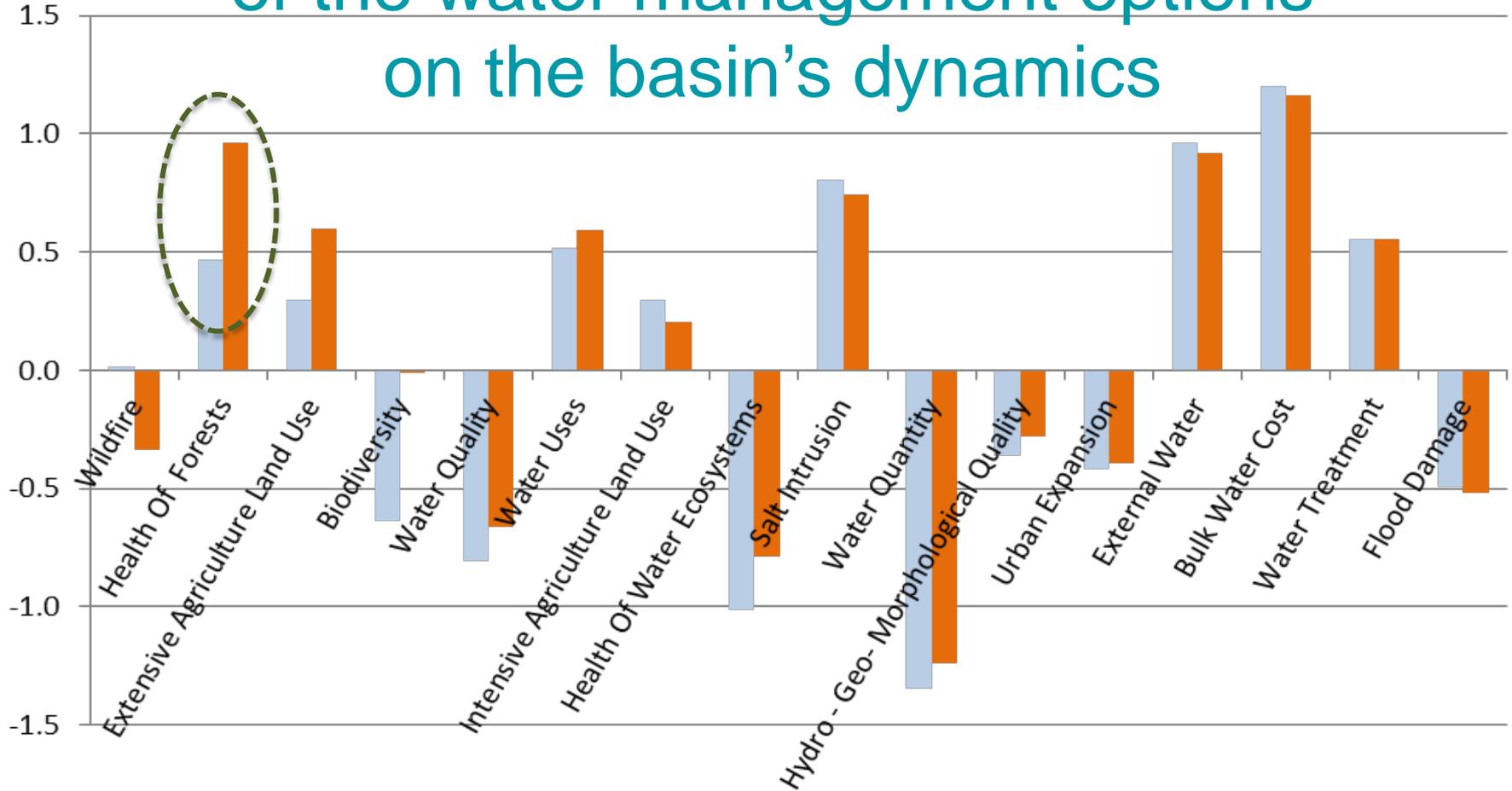
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# Impact assessment of the water management options on the basin's dynamics



- The option affects the **relation** between factors in the map.
- Allows to **compare** the FCM reference model with a new state of the basin's dynamics indicating the **changes induced by the WMO**.

# Multi-Criteria Analysis



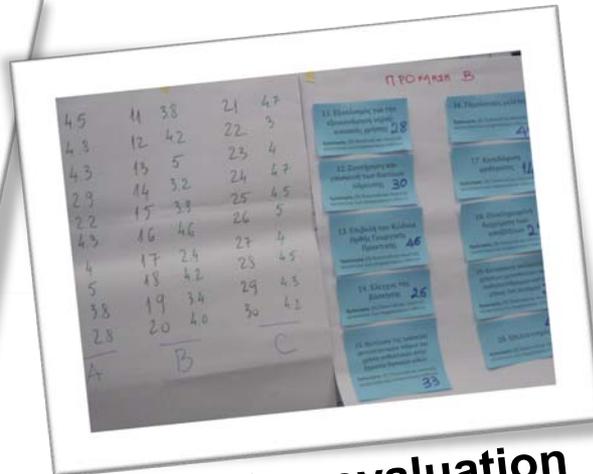
Presenting BeWater



Selecting evaluation criteria



Indicating preferences

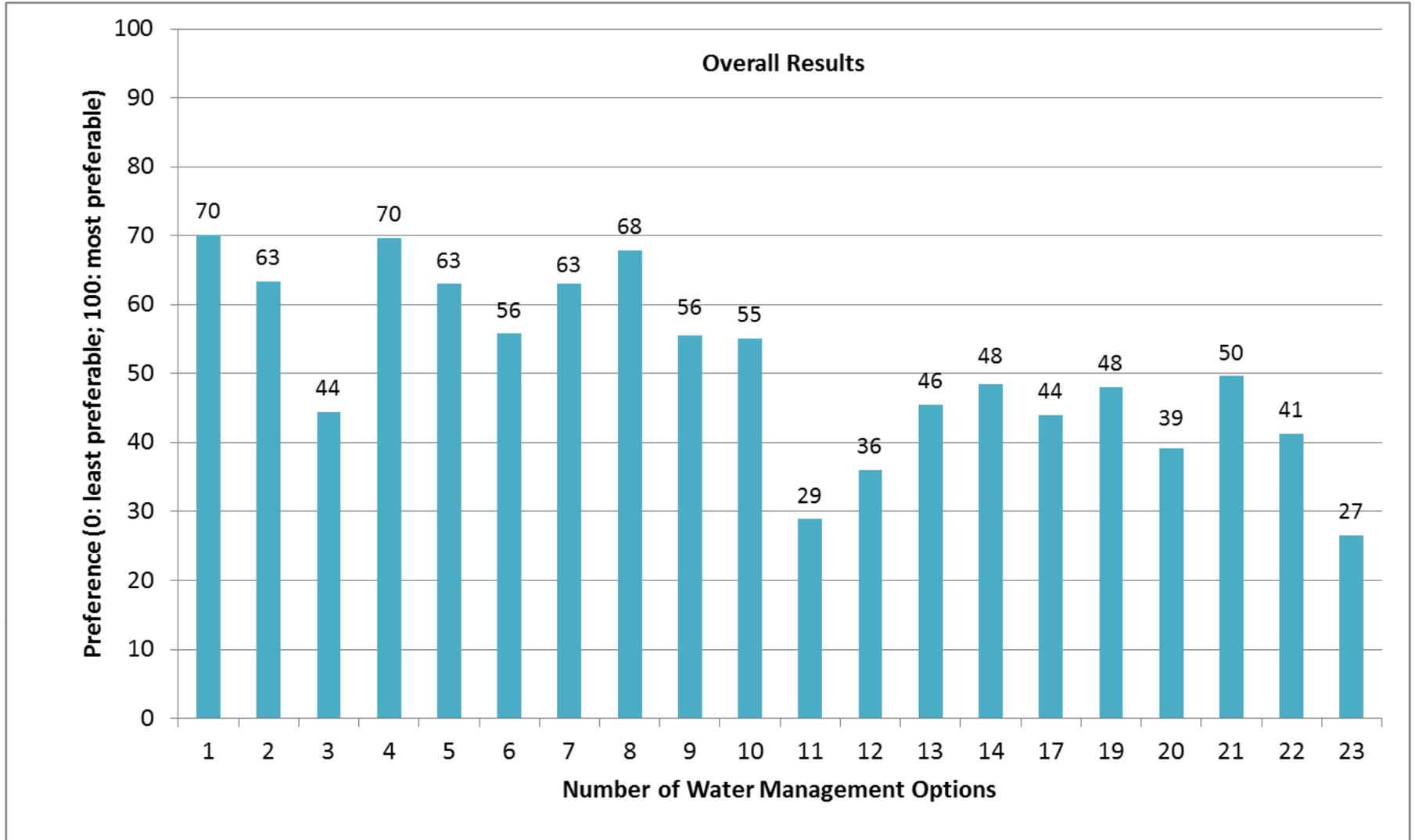


Analysing evaluation results



Discussing water management options

# Multi-Criteria Analysis: Vipava basin (Slovenia)



# Prioritized water management options

## Vipava (Slovenia):

- Reconstruction of existing water reservoir and construction of new ones, and irrigation systems.
- Construction of dry reservoirs.
- Awareness campaigns for experts, farmers and local public together with inter-municipal working group.

## Tordera (Spain):

- Environmental flows and recovering groundwater levels.
- Information access and availability, and citizens engagement.
- Adaptive forest management agreements.

## Rmel (Tunisia):

- Promote new water and soil conservation techniques
- Use of water irrigation technologies
- Reduction of society pressure on forests
- Involving stakeholders in all steps of the study and decision making

## Pedieos (Cyprus):

- Dynamic dam water management.
- Enforcement of the Code of Good Agricultural Practices.
- Restoration and maintenance of riverbed.

**102 options in total!**

# Preparing Adaptation Plans

## Bundling of options

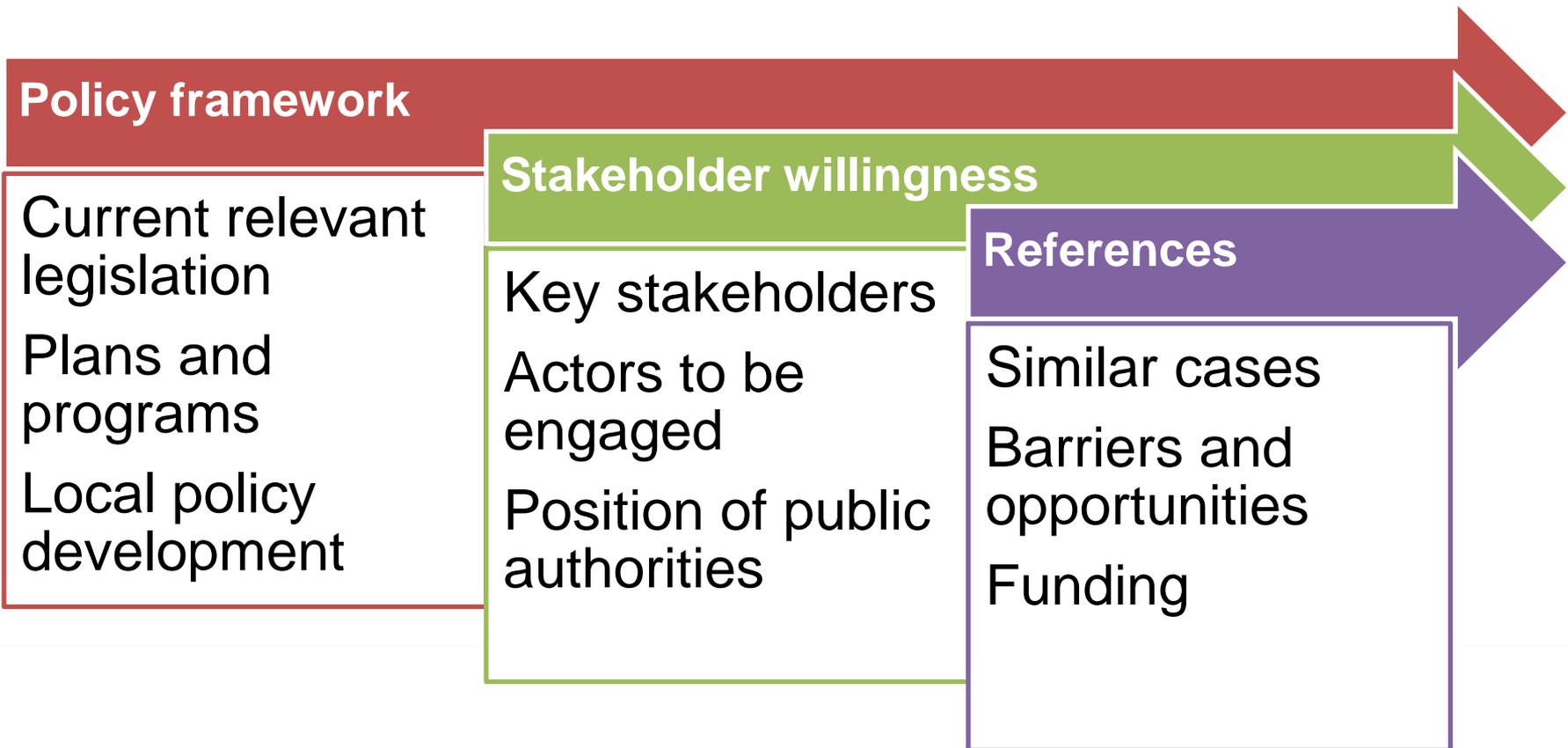


Group of options which could be implemented jointly:

- Enhance co-benefits
- Take into account conflicts
- Inter-dependence
- Preconditions
- Opportunities for up-take

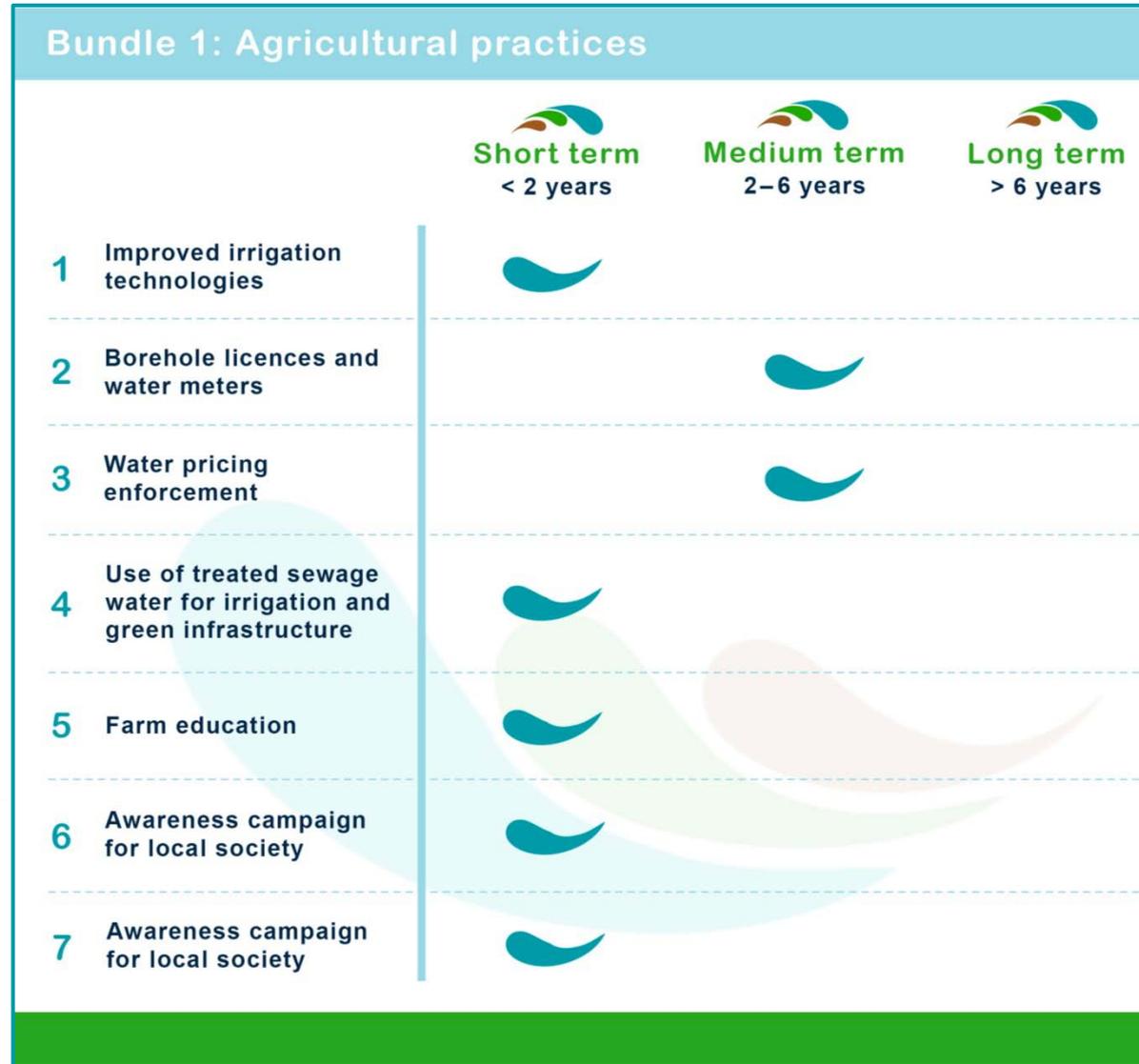
# Preparing Adaptation Plans

## Implementation oriented information

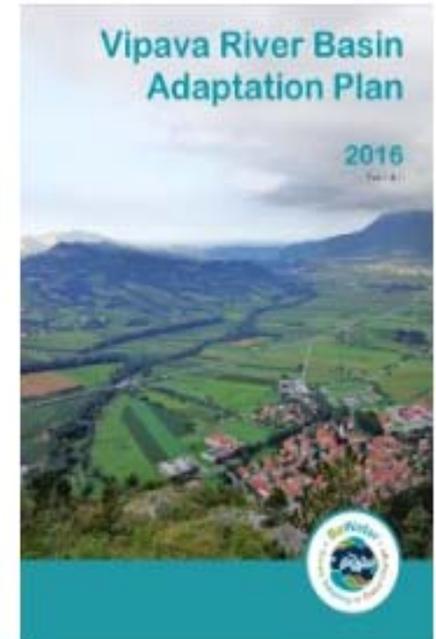
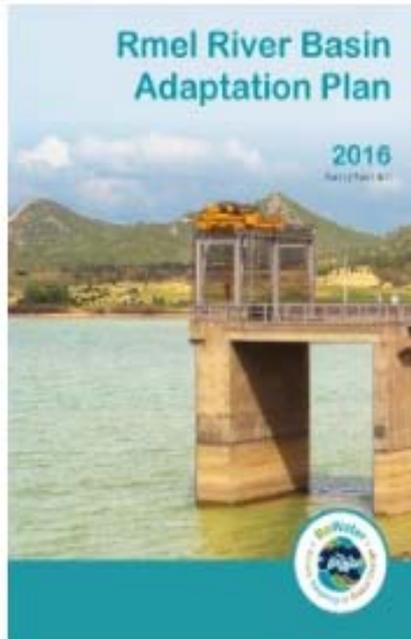
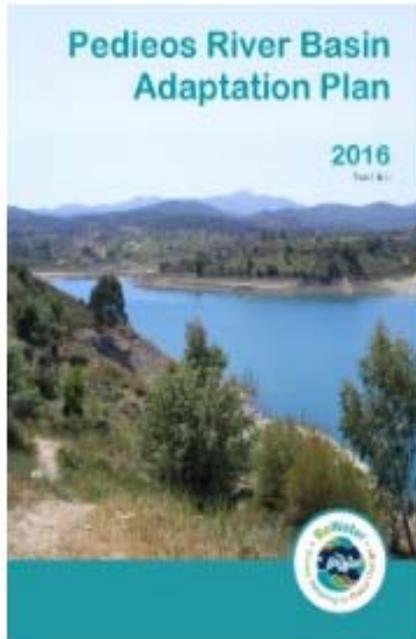


# Adaptation pathways

Participants designed the best combination of water management options and a sound timing to implement them in according to synergies and opportunities identified previously.



# 4 Adaptation Plans



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# BeWater: facing challenges for inclusive governance

- Level of interest: local societies are **willing to contribute** to pursue the solutions to the impacts of global change.
- Consolidation of approach and methods: applied to 4 pilot **case study river basins**.
- Sound scientific diagnosis but including local society knowledge (**vulnerability** analysis and **uncertainty** assessment).
- Social-ecological **trade-off's**: increase **resilience by** fostering problem solving processes that reach **compromises**.
- Multi-level governance, intense and active involvement of society



# Promoting inclusive governance

- Identifying key actors and developing targeted **engagement strategies**;
- Linking **actor groups** and creating opportunities for **interaction**;
- Fostering citizen's **empowerment and awareness** and **convergent targets**;
- Enhancing inter-sectoral **knowledge sharing**;
- Increasing **transparency** (access, format, timing) of relevant information;
- Delivering key messages to **decision makers**;
- Promoting **institutional changes** to allow consolidation of inclusive governance practices.



# Proposals for improved governance in BeWater Case studies

## ✓ Society as a whole:

- Open citizen participation processes (promoted by different policy sectors),

## ✓ Stakeholders:

- Water User Associations,
- Management consortia.

## ✓ Administration at different levels

- Coordination boards (i.e. Municipalities),
- Interdepartmental groups,
- Policy implementation observatories.

# Governance for Adaptive Water Management: what do we need?

- New regulations and new institutional structures;
- Increased collaboration between competent authorities and policy makers;
- Transparency and sound planning;
- Include all citizens into decision making processes;
- Guarantee continuity of deliberative spaces;
- Accountability on uptake and implementation;
- Social learning processes.



# Thank you!



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