What is LIS-Water?

LIS-Water’s mission is to contribute to a better world through implementing excellent research and innovation activities to achieve improved water services and related water resources management — that are vital to the well-being of citizens, healthy societies, improved environments and economic growth.

LIS-Water’s areas of activity are:

**Research & innovation**

Multidisciplinary research and innovation on key topics including water related public policies, regulation and management, covering emerging issues like water governance, circular economy, climate change and cities of tomorrow.

**Education, training and capacity building**

High-level education, training and capacity building initiatives for water professionals from all over the world, contributing to reinforcing the intellectual capital in the water sector.

**Think-tank and strategic advice**

Assistance to different levels of decision makers in the water sector to define the best approach for solving problems and challenges based on an independent, innovative, simple and effective strategic advice.

**Business and startup support**

Support to entrepreneurship and new venture development through incubation & acceleration of start-ups helping to explore innovation and create jobs in the water sector, based on sharing knowledge and experience.

**Community outreach and engagement**

Awareness raising on water issues and enhancement of consumer protection, public engagement, ethics, integrity and information towards society.
What is research & innovation in LIS-Water?

LIS-Water’s main priority is to boost multidisciplinary research and innovation on key topics including public policies, regulation and management, covering emerging issues like water governance, circular economy, climate change and cities of tomorrow.

This area of activity includes:

**Knowledge production and innovation**

This activity consists of the development of research and innovation projects and the dissemination of the corresponding results.

It offers new knowledge, information, data, tools and prototypes, learning cases, reports, articles and papers, press articles, press releases and news, and patents.

These are especially relevant for governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies in the water sector, and media organisations.

**Knowledge collection and review**

This activity consists of collecting, processing and disseminating in a structured format existing worldwide knowledge, including also periodically published state-of-the-art and future trends reports. This activity thus provides knowledge, information, data, reports, articles and papers, press articles, news and press releases.

These are especially relevant for governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies in the water sector, and media organisations.
What is education, training and capacity building in LIS-Water?

LIS-Water offers high-level education, training and capacity building initiatives for water professionals from all over the world.

This area of activity includes:

**Postgraduate education**
This activity consists of a PhD and a postdoctoral programme, targeting especially at graduates and professionals with a PhD degree. The programmes result in a range of outputs, such as thesis, learning cases, articles and papers, that can especially be useful for governmental and public administration, water utilities and their representatives, and private companies in the water sector.

**Executive training courses**
This activity consists of training courses based in Lisbon and abroad, courses offered online, as well as technology enhanced learning activities. Such face-to-face, e-learning and blended-learning training courses, the related core training material, learning cases, simulations, tools and templates are especially useful for executives from governmental and public administration, water utilities and their representatives, and private companies in the water sector.

**Professional training courses**
This activity consists of training courses (face-to-face, e-learning and blended-learning), and technology enhanced learning activities. These courses, the related core training material, learning cases, simulations, tools and templates are especially useful for professionals from governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, and private companies in the water sector.

**Capacity building**
This activity consists of training events addressing organisations. This training offer, including the core training material, learning cases, simulations, tools and templates are especially useful for governmental and public administration, water utilities and their representatives, and private companies in the water sector.

**Mobility exchange and integration**
It consists of a cross-fertilisation programme between researchers / research organisations and the labour market. The programme also includes advice and mentoring and targets especially at governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, and private companies in the water sector.

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LIS-Water assists different levels of decision makers in the water sector to define the best approach for solving problems and challenges based on an independent, innovative, simple and effective strategic advice.

This area of activity includes:

**LIS-Water high-level water conference**
This activity consists of the organisation of a biennial high-level international water conference, generating, key messages, recommendations, policy / position papers, papers, press articles, news and press releases. These events and their outcomes are especially relevant for governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies, and media organisations.

**Think tank / brainstorming**
This activity consists of the organisation of one-day high-level think tank / brainstorming events on key water challenges. These events and their generated outcomes, such as books, articles, policy papers, key messages, recommendations, press articles, press releases and news are especially relevant for governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies in the water sector, and media organisations.

**Strategic advice**
This activity consists of high-level strategic advice provided to both Portuguese and international clients. Such advice and all the generated, reports and learning cases are especially relevant for governmental and public administration, water utilities and their representatives, and private companies in the water sector.

**Dialogue with policy stakeholders**
This activity consists of stakeholder engagement and networking in international platforms and organisations. This activity implies the participation in key events, and it results in articles, papers, key messages, recommendations, press articles, press releases and news which are especially relevant for governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies in the water sector, and media organisations.
What is business and start-up support in LIS-Water?

LIS-Water assists entrepreneurship and new venture development via start-up incubation & acceleration with the aim to explore innovation, improve competitiveness and create jobs in the water sector, sharing knowledge and experience.

This area of activity includes:

**Challenging innovation**
This activity integrates business and start-up support and consists of the so-called challenging innovation events for the generation of innovative ideas for the water field. In addition to the events, it also offers mentoring and support, and generates innovation showcases. Challenging innovation is targeted at university undergraduates near the end of their studies. All the generated ideas and outputs are especially relevant for universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, and private companies in the water sector.

**Startup incubation**
This activity consists of a startup incubation programme and value-added resources and services, including mentoring, support, access to facilities networks, capacity building and investment. Specifically designed to help startups build, execute and validate their business model, access international markets and get funding. Startup incubation targets at companies and entrepreneurs that operate in the water market.

**Startup acceleration**
This activity consists of an open acceleration programme and value-added resources and services to help existing startups grow quicker, scale their businesses faster and have with better chances to attract venture capital investment. The programme offers mentoring and support, and targets at existing companies and entrepreneurs that operate in the water market.

**Business advice and support**
This activity consists of business advice and support to industry stakeholders. This service provides advice, mentoring and support and targets especially at private companies in the water sector.
What is community outreach and engagement in LIS-Water?

LIS-Water raises awareness on water issues and improves consumer protection, public engagement, ethics, integrity and water-related information towards the society at large.

This area of activity includes:

**Community outreach**

This activity consists of the translation of knowledge, and research and innovation findings to society (from research to society). It provides information, data, reports, books, games, videos, photos, press articles, press releases and news. The community outreach targets at all members of the society and its information, tools and products are also useful for governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies in the water sector, and media organisations.

**Water awareness**

This activity consists of awareness raising initiatives targeted to specific types of stakeholders. These are training events, awareness events, and the respective core training materials, generated press articles, press releases and news. Such initiatives are especially useful tools for governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies in water sector, and media organisations.

**Social engagement support**

This activity consists of the support to civil society initiatives and the promotion of initiatives for collecting societal needs, expectations, and opinions in regard of water issues (from society to research). Such support includes advice, support, stories, testimonies, and reports targeting at governmental and public administration, universities and research centres, water utilities and their representatives, associations on water and related areas, international organisations, private companies in the water sector, and media organisations.

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Why to become a LIS-Water associate?

LIS-Water is a vibrant, innovative, open, supportive and not-for-profit centre of excellence for leading edge research and innovation related to aspects of public policy, regulation and management of water services and related water resources. LIS-Water can ensure the success of its mission only and strictly in cooperation with institutions and individuals from different parts of the world that believe in such mission. This must be a win-win process.

Benefits of being a LIS-Water associate

- Influence LIS-Water’s areas of activity and course of actions
- Access to cutting-edge knowledge & services
- Possibility of collaborating with LIS-Water
- Increased international visibility via LIS-Water
- Access to LIS-Water networks

Benefits for LIS-Water via its associates

- Enlarge its networks via the associates’ networks
- Collaborate with associates on water and related areas
- Broaden its portfolio of expertise
- Enlarge the access to other geographies
- Increase its visibility both regionally and internationally

How to become an associate

If you belong to a governmental and public administration, university, research centre, water utility or representative organisation, association on water and related areas, international organisation, private company in the water sector, or media organisation, you can be an associate (corporate or individual) and belong to the LIS-Water ecosystem.

Associates do not pay a fee and can terminate their associateship at any moment.

To become an associate, please fill in the application form available in the webpage www.lis-water.org