

# Water: Preserving water in Europe

## **Description :**

Water is subject to strong anthropogenic pressures, putting ecosystems and human health at risk. Non-state actors (NGOs, local and regional authorities, companies, etc.) have a crucial role to play in sustainable water management to enable development. The EU Commission's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2021) emphasises the importance of sustainable access to freshwater to foster resilience to climate change and cites nature-based solutions as an appropriate resolution to water challenges. The Summit workshop on the challenge of water preservation in Europe was a dialogue on concrete and operational actions to solve water-related problems and ensure the resilience of territories to climate change in Europe. The proposals resulting from this workshop will be presented at the World Water Forum in Dakar in March 2022.

**Chair : Jean-Luc Redaud,** President of the "Water and Climate" working group of the French Water Partnership

## Moderators:

- Jean-Luc Redaud, President of the "Water and Climate" working group of the French Water Partnership
- Alexandre Alix, Water and Climate Officer of the French Water Partnership

## Speakers :

- Morgan Priol, Director of the Maine-Loire-Ocean delegation of the Loire-Bretagne water agency
- Sarah Dayan, Head of CSR and Climate, Comité 21
- Myriam Merad, President of the Scientific Council of the "Association Française de Prévention des Catastrophes Naturelles et Technologiques" AFPCNT and Director of Research at the CNRS, Université Paris-Dauphine (UMR "Laboratoire d'Analyse et de Modélisation et des Processus de Décision" LAMSADE)
- Jean-Sébastien Guitton, Mayor of Orvault, Vice-President of Nantes Métropole
- Thierry Burlot, President of the Loire-Bretagne basin committee

## Summary of discussions :

• The main issues regarding water are adaptation issues: availability of supply (water transfer, rainwater harvesting, natural barriers to erosion control) and demand (efficiency of demand around the perimeter of the home and industries, agricultural sector).



- There is a need to popularise information and data on water in order to avoid working in silos (water being central to several sectors) and to disseminate climate realities more effectively to the general public, which is still struggling to become sufficiently aware of the climate emergency
- Great need to promote new, more environmentally friendly approaches (Nature-based solutions).

THEMATIC DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL			
N°	Торіс	European policy	Proposal
1	Monitoring/eval uation	The Water Framework Directive	Ensure that the new 2022 water legislation takes into account the need to strengthen, at basin level in particular, monitoring networks (in-situ & remote sensing - including satellite), data, hydro-climatic models and warning systems. And consolidate the storage and sharing of water data in an inclusive way through national, European - Water4All - databases and information systems.
2	Funding	The Water Framework Directive	Provide EU funding for the implementation of Nature-based Solutions for water, promoted in the European Commission's Adaptation Strategy 2021, at the local level in Europe.
3	Agriculture	The common agricultural policy	Align the European Commission's water policies and legislation with the CAP, particularly with regard to the protection and sustainable management of water.