Thursday 8 October 2026 (9h15-13h00)

EIB Group, Rond-Point Schumann 6,

Brussels

Agenda

09:15 – 09:30 Registration and coffee

09:30 – 09:50 Opening Remarks: Keeping Water in the Landscape – Financing and Governing the Transition to Water Resilience

Setting the scene for the workshop, the opening session will explore why restoring natural water cycles and investing in healthy landscapes is becoming a strategic priority for Europe. Speakers will highlight the policy, financing and governance challenges that must be addressed to accelerate large-scale ecosystem restoration and nature-based solutions for water resilience.

- ***Edouard Pérard, Head of Division, Water Sector, European Investment Bank.***
- ***Claudia Olazábal, Head of Unit, Sustainable Freshwater Management, DG Environment, European Commission.***
- ***Francesco Mascolo, Vice-president, Aqua Publica Europea.***

09:50 – 10:45 Showcasing flagship examples of landscape-scale ecosystem restoration for water resilience across Europe

Presented by leading European public water operators and landscape partnerships working across the agriculture and water sectors.

- **Water resilience through catchment protection and collaboration with upstream agriculture stakeholders:** *Ivoa Alavoine, Director-General and Florine Nataf, Agriculture and Innovation Project Officer, Eau de Paris (France).*
- **Catchment management for water resilience:** *Kor Van Hoof, River Basin Management Plan Programme Coordinator, Flemish Environmental Agency (Belgium).*

- **Regional water resources planning for climate resilience**: *Marc Closset*, Director of Water Resources Management, *Société Wallonne des Eaux, (Belgium).*
- **Mobilising public and private finance for regenerative agriculture and landscape water resilience:** *Anne Trombini, Director, Pour une Agriculture du Vivant/ COVALO (France).*
- **Protecting water resources through catchment-based management:** *Franck Perru, Project Manager, Syndicat des Eaux et de l'Assainissement Alsace-Moselle (France).*

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 11:45 Panel Discussion: What is needed from public and private stakeholders to scale landscape water resilience?

Bringing together perspectives from finance, insurance, water utilities, corporates, government and regulation, the panel will explore how to accelerate landscape-scale water resilience through stronger partnerships, better-aligned incentives, and innovative financing and governance models. Audience questions and reflections will be invited.

Moderators: Milo Fiasconaro, Executive Director, Aqua Publica Europea and James Hunt, Senior Water Engineer, European Investment Bank.

- **National water policy and planning:** *António Branco, Senior Officer, Water Planning and Management Unit, Portuguese Environment Agency; and Joana Patrícia Casacas, Water Resources Department, Portuguese Environment Agency.*
- **Water regulation:** *Mariana Portela, Senior Regulatory and EU Affairs Manager, European Water Regulators Association.*
- **Agriculture and farming perspectives on water resilience:** Mairéad Whitty, *AGRI Project Lead, Farming for Water EIP (Ireland).*
- **Integrating catchment resilience into utility planning:** *Lorraine Gaston, Integrated Catchment Manager, Uisce Éireann (Ireland).*
- **Insurance, prevention and climate-risk reduction:** *Vylon Ooms, Senior Policy Adviser and Coordinator for Climate and Sustainability, Dutch Association of Insurers, Netherlands; and François-Xavier Hay, Investment Director of Caisse Centrale de Réassurance (France).*
- **Corporate investment and water stewardship across shared landscapes:** *Sian Chapman, Head of Corporate Affairs and Sustainability, Nestlé Waters & Premium Beverages.*

11:45 – 12:30 Interactive Discussion: Building a Roadmap for Landscape Water Resilience

Building on the insights from the panel discussion and case studies, participants will identify practical actions to accelerate landscape-scale ecosystem restoration and strengthen water resilience across Europe.

Facilitated by: Milo Fiasconaro and James Hunt.

Discussion themes:

- **Governance challenges** and conditions for collaboration across sector, geographical scales and administrative boundaries.
- **Financing models** for landscape-scale water resilience and ecosystem restoration.
- Accounting for the value of nature-based approaches: which methodologies and metrics can help regulators, utilities and investors assess and recognise the **costs and benefits of nature-based solutions compared with traditional engineered infrastructure**?
- **Aggregating projects** and developing investable pipelines.
- **Aligning public and private finance** to move from pilot initiatives to implementation at scale.
- **Priority recommendations** for a roadmap on landscape water resilience.

12:30 – 13:00 Closing Discussion: From Recommendations to Action

A synthesis of the workshop's key messages and recommendations, highlighting priority actions for strengthening landscape water resilience through improved governance, financing, and cross-sector collaboration.

- *Claudia Olazábal, DG Environment, European Commission.*
- *Edouard Pérard, European Investment Bank.*

Closing reflections on:

- **Priorities** for future collaboration between the water, agriculture and finance communities.
- **Opportunities** for public water operators to act as conveners and investors in landscape restoration.
- **Next steps** towards a shared European agenda for landscape water resilience.

13:00 – 14:00 Networking Lunch

An opportunity for participants to continue discussions, explore partnerships, and exchange experiences on scaling landscape approaches to water resilience