



## Shaping AQUACROSS Research & Strengthening Impact AQUACROSS Legacy – the way ahead

Gonzalo Delacámara, IMDEA

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# What comes next after the project is over (your inputs)



- Resources / tools that can enable common EBA across realms (e.g. linkage matrices, AF,...)
- Roadmap for aquatic data infrastructure(s)
- Maintaining cross realm knowledge exchange
- Preservation- datasets, portals, etc.
- Demonstration projects that can be copied elsewhere
- Making data available
- Spreading knowledge outside research communities (reports, videos, easy access for everybody!)
- Increasing management efficiency
- Implementation principles
- Informing / raising awareness on EBM by stakeholders
- Transdisciplinary collaboration
- Knowledge co-creation & transparency
- Implementation at CS level
- Ascertaining funding
- Listing possible follow-up projects

# Thinking in terms of added value?



## Knowledge gaps & research questions

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- How to move from descriptive to more analytical approaches?
- How to capture local trade-offs & dis-services?
- How to deal with non-linearities in ecosystem services delivery & benefits?
- How to generate a higher degree of consistency of analysis across aquatic realms?
- How to achieve further integration at different levels?
- How to enhance resilience thinking towards better management approaches from an operational perspective?

## (Generic) Policy relevance & challenges

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- How to ensure a smooth uptake of AQUACROSS outcomes by stakeholders?
- What lessons can be learnt from the applicability of the AF & the feedback from case studies / real-life applications?
- Do / will we have any specific insight on the spatial & temporal scale mismatch of processes & management decisions?
- To what extent can AQUACROSS contribute to overcome conventional application & policy/management silos?

- ≈ What are the most innovative aspects of the project? – *this question was already posed in the formal review by EASME & external evaluators*
  
- ≈ (In other words) Which levels of **integration** (across realms, natural & social science, ecological & economic analyses, multiple scales, etc.) are more relevant in terms of adding value beyond the state of the art?
  
- ≈ Are there any specific methods & tools that may actually make a difference for the scientific community? Any concept?
  
- ≈ Should we have a joint, collective reflection with similar projects to make the most out of synergies? (MARS, OPENNESS, OPERA, etc.) (As today w/ Daniel...)

- ≈ Do you envisage any sustainable business model emerging from this project?
  - A circular economy project on plastic management in river / marine ecosystems to produce garment?
  - A bio-engineering / bio-remediation spin-off company?
  - A start-up on geo-localisation for biodiversity conservation in aquatic ecosystems?
  - A start-up on biodiversity data management?
  - [...]
  
- ≈ Is the exploration of follow-up projects w/ higher engagement from the business community a potential contribution to the project's legacy?
  
- ≈ Is there anything that may lead to a patent in the project?

- ≈ Are we (sufficiently) aware of opportunities for our project's legacy that have already been identified by policy-makers?
  - Marine spatial planning
  - Green & blue infrastructure implementation -- challenges for ex-ante assessments
  - Joint drought & flood management
  - Climate change adaptation
  - Smart river basin management (use of ITs for watershed management)
  - [...]
  
  - Review of the WFD (2019)
  - Blue2 project
  - Integrated assessment of the implementation of (2<sup>nd</sup> cycle) RBMPs
  - Linkages between the WFD, ICZM, and the MSFD
  - [...]
  
- ≈ Is there anything we can produce that is relevant for global environmental fora (CBD, UNFCCC on climate change adaptation, OECD WGI, UN Agenda 2030, etc.)?

- ≈ Do we reflect (enough) on why biodiversity conservation is important for society? (How will the 2020 Biodiversity Strategy or the Aichi targets make a (real) difference for citizens?)
- ≈ (Given the emphasis from the EC on growth & employment benefits) Could we make the economic case for further investment in biodiversity & ESS conservation? (Would we be ready to pass the test of EC Green Semester officers?)