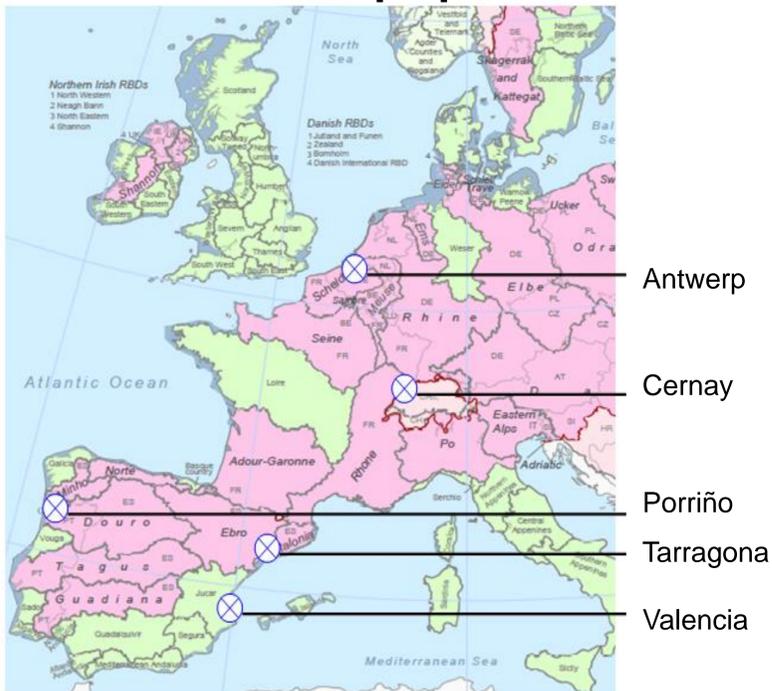


Water Stewardship as the Framework for Management Innovation

Context

The chemical production sector is exposed to a number of physical, regulatory and reputational water-related risks despite the significant and long-term technological investments to improve water management in their operations around the globe. This is mainly due to the scope of operations and high visibility of the sector. The European Water Partnership (EWP) in collaboration with ECPA has carried out a joint initiative with five chemical sites in Europe to implement an innovative management framework that evaluated their current water management performance, defined targeted areas for action, allowed companies to communicate their achievements and provided indicators to monitor and ensure continuous improvement.

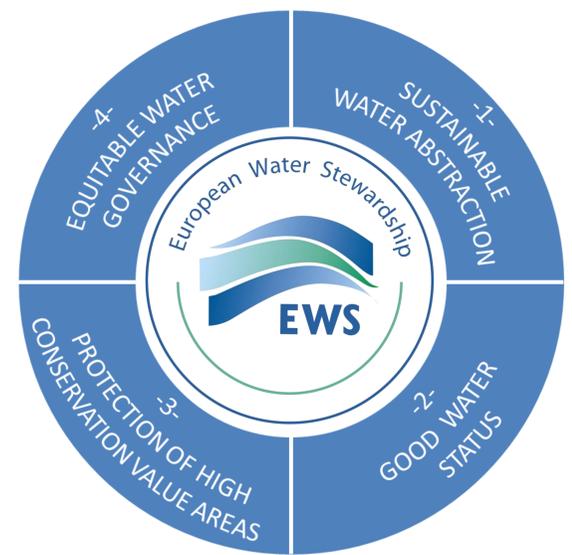
Areas tested in the project



The framework

The 4 water stewardship principles are the basis of the European Water Stewardship (EWS) standard. They provide a framework against which sites can measure their performance in water management and define targeted areas for action. Moreover it provides the sites with indicators to monitor and ensure continuous improvement.

The 49 indicators have been developed in the context of the EU Water Framework Directive, so the EWS standard prepares the operations to be compliant with legal requirements as well as to become a leader in responsible water stewardship.



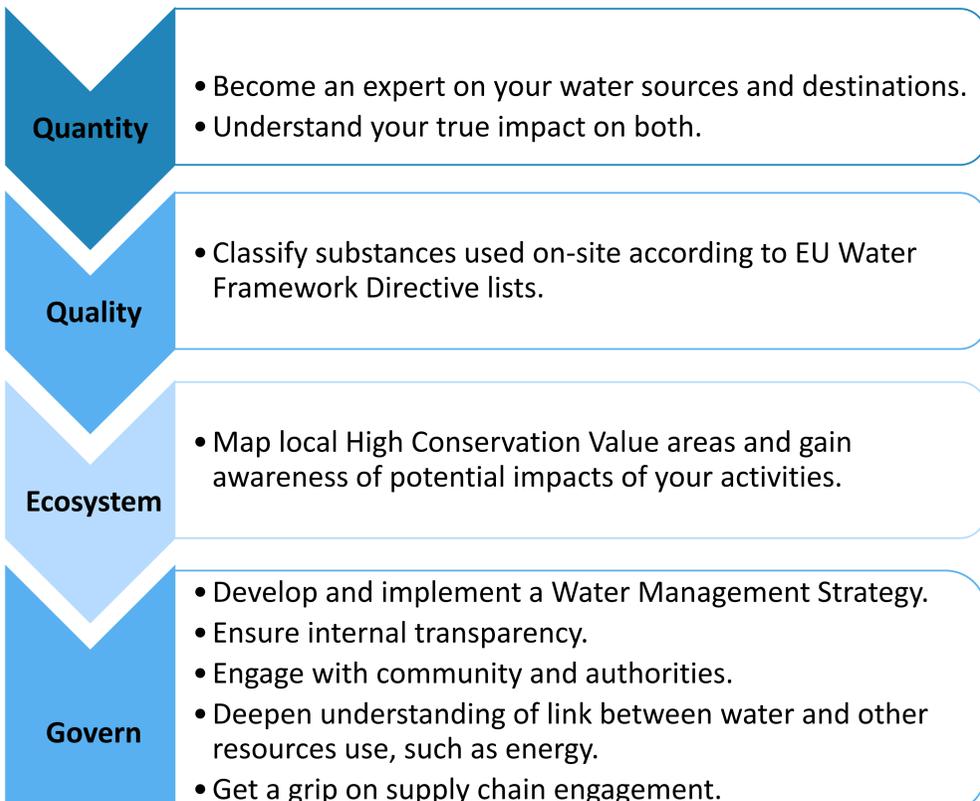
Six Steps to Success



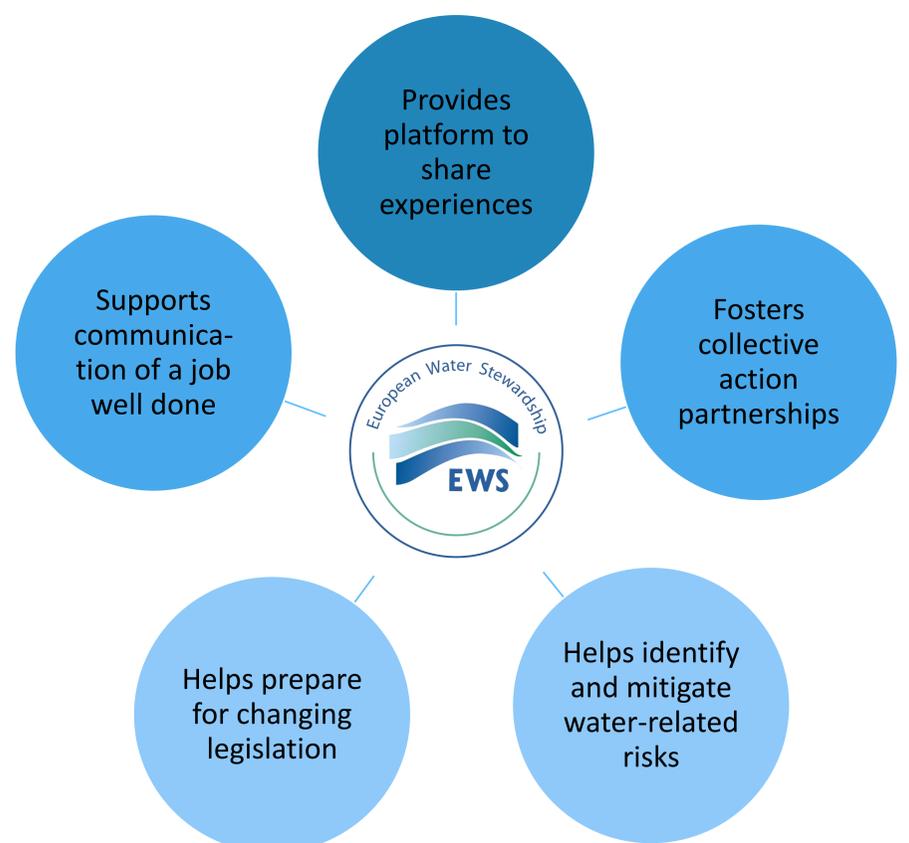
Results

Areas for improvement

Analysis of the prescreening assessments indicated that Equitable Water Governance (Principle 4 of the EWS standard) is the area where there was greatest room for improvement for all production sites. This coincides with perceptions that sites perform quite well in terms of on-site water management, but there is still work to be done to ensure sufficient external engagement to address reputational and other shared risks.



Added value



EWS drives management innovation that complements technical innovation in water resource management.