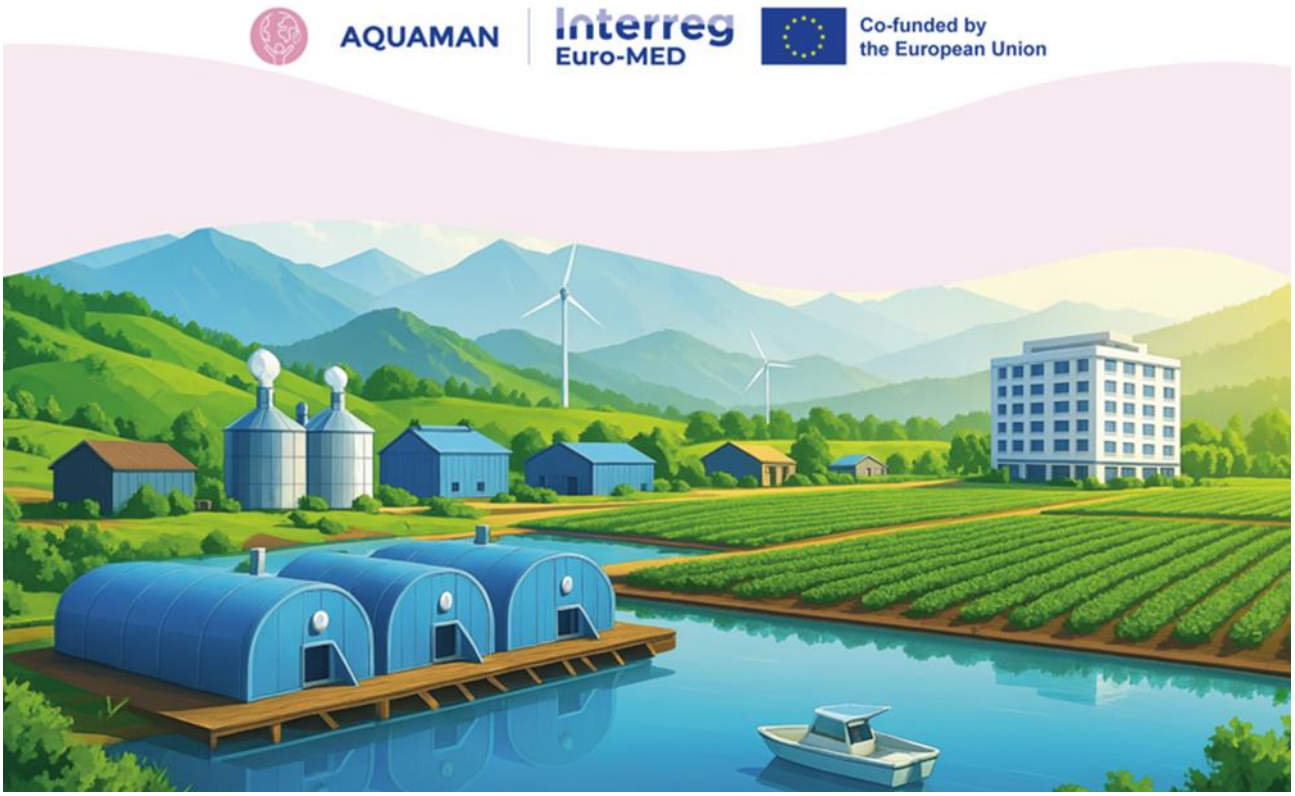
AQUAMAN Living Lab for Climate Resilient Coastal Tourism

Interreg Euro-MED AQUAMAN Project

Assessment of aquatic systems for the mitigation of water scarcity in Mediterranean islands and coastal tourist destinations under severe pressure



CONCEPT NOTE

The project *AQUAticsystems' evaluation for the Mitigation of wAter scarcity in Meditteranean islaNds and coastal tourist destinations under severe pressure* **(AQUAMAN)** aims to strengthen the resilience of Mediterranean tourist areas in the face of water scarcity, in particular on islands and coastal areas, which are severely affected by climate change and the pressure of excessive tourism.

Through Living Labs, the project promotes nature-based solutions and sustainable water management plans. The project involves 9 partners from 6 Mediterranean countries, including public entities, research institutions and local and regional government organizations, working together to address the critical challenge of water scarcity.

The third Living Lab of the project takes place in Faro, Algarve, involving local and regional actors, experts and community representatives, in an Inception Workshop, with the aim of promoting the development of innovative solutions for sustainable water management in Mediterranean territories dependent on tourism and vulnerable to climate change.

Place and date:

This session will take place in **Faro, Algarve, on April 9, 2026**.

General objectives of the session:

The AQUAMAN Living Lab – Water Efficiency in Tourism aims to promote a collaborative, experimental and action-oriented approach to efficient water management in the tourism sector, articulating training, public policies, technical solutions and professional practices.

Through two complementary moments — one in a school context and the other in a professional context — Living Lab aims to:

- Raise awareness and train different target audiences for the challenges of water scarcity in the Algarve;
- Promote the adoption of concrete solutions adapted to the specificities of tourism activities;
- Strengthen the transfer and replicability of good practices identified in the Catalogue "Blue Horizons: Innovative Water Solutions for Tourism and Climate Change-Resilient Regions" developed under the AQUAMAN project;
- To value national public policy instruments, namely the SAVE WATER Seal, as a reference for water efficiency in tourism.

i. Moment 1 | Living Lab in an Educational Context

It takes place in a training/educational setting and is aimed at students of the Algarve School of Hospitality and Tourism (Level 5 of the Hospitality and Accommodation Management and Tourism Management programmes).

It has a pedagogical and participatory character, promoting direct contact between students and real-world challenges, as well as solutions already being implemented in the sector.

ii. Moment 2 | Living Lab in a Professional Context | Water Efficiency Measures Bootcamp under the Save Water Label

It takes place in a professional context and is integrated into the Water Efficiency Measures Bootcamp under the Save Water Label (SSW). It is aimed at managers and technicians from tourism enterprises, local accommodation, theme and water parks, and rent-a-car companies.

It follows a more operational, implementation-oriented approach and aims to support sector operators in adopting more efficient water management practices, while promoting concrete solutions tailored to the specificities of different tourism activities.