

### PRESS RELEASE - 23rd January 2025

# €500k TO SUPPORT ASSOCIATED REGIONS TO MONITOR AND REDUCE WATER POLLUTION

APPLICATIONS FOR THE IMERMAID CALL #2 ARE OPEN! -



## WHAT

The iMERMAID Open Call #2 invites regional and local authorities to propose their use cases, to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale up of the iMERMAID solutions, and expand the number of use cases acting as demonstrators.

### BENEFITS

- €100.000 grant
- 9 months technical assistance
- Pairing with iMERMAID Use-Cases for Hands-On Learning
- Exploitation and sustainability support





The iMERMAID Consortium is now launching iMERMAID Open Call #2, inviting **regional and local authorities** to propose their actions to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale up of the iMERMAID solutions.

With a total investment of €500,000, iMERMAID Open Call #2 will fund and support 5 demonstration projects to expand the number of use cases acting as demonstrators. Each selected project will receive



a €100,000 grant and benefit from a comprehensive 9-month support program, which includes technical assistance and hands-on learning opportunities.

#### The objectives of iMERMAID Open Call #2 are:

- Showcasing Innovation: Applicants are expected to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale up of the solutions developed within the iMERMAID project
- Building Capacity: Successful applicants will receive technical assistance to build the capacity needed to restore water ecosystems and combat chemical pollution effectively.
- Ensuring Sustainability: Selected projects will receive support beyond the assistance program to identify relevant next steps for the sustainability of their projects, ensuring long-term impact.

#### Key details:

- Open call launch: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025
- Open call deadline: 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 at 5pm (CET)
- Application form: https://www.f6s.com/imermaid-open-call-2/apply
- Project website: https://imermaid.eu/open-call-2/#documents

#### Activities that can be funded through the open Call:

- > Activities to remove contaminants
- Pollutants monitoring actions
- > Remediation actions for specific pollutants
- > Definition of regional pollutants and required actions for remediation
- Dissemination and Communication of the activities and results- Activities to remove contaminants

#### Applicants can apply within any or a mix of the following topics:

- Upstream Chemical Pollution Detection: Monitoring; Mapping and Hot Spot Identification.
- Solutions against upstream water chemical pollution: Prevention, Reduction, and Remediation.

#### Type of beneficiary (applicant): local and regional authorities

Local or regional authorities from an associated region are understood as legal entities, including bodies representing a regional/local authority (such as regional/local agencies, regional planning bodies, regional/local transport authorities, etc...), whose role is significant and relevant for showcasing the feasibility, replicability and scalability of the solutions developed in the project.

Important: Third parties that are considered private entities cannot be part of the consortium. Once awarded, the winning local/regional authority may explore other ways of collaborating with these entities, such as subcontracting.

#### What are the associated regions?

Are areas with similar ecosystems (e.g. neighboring regions and/or regions in a different river basin) and/or less-developed regions, with a view to build capacity to implement the innovative solutions to restore freshwater ecosystems.

#### Eligible countries:

iMERMAID Open Call #2 aims to enlarge the pool of available associated regions with emphasis on new water basins and countries.

#### www.imermaid.eu



Eligible countries: Eligible are all regions that are **NOT** located in the countries, in which the iMERMAID project partners are based (see below) and that have not been selected as a beneficiary under Open Call 1 (see below) e.g. but not excluded to: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Hungary, Israel, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Libya, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Moldova, North Macedonia, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, etc.

Please check the full list of participating countries eligible for HE support: here.

Non-eligible countries are all regions located in the countries, in which the iMERMAID project partners are based: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Serbia, Spain, Tunisia, Ukraine. Non-eligible are as well the associated regions where beneficiaries selected under Open Call #1 are based: Bosanska Krajina (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Adana Province (Turkey) and Cimişlia district (Moldova).

Applications for the iMERMAID Open Call #2 are now open in <u>F6S</u> until 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025. For detailed information about iMERMAID Open Call #2 and eligibility criteria, please visit https://imermaid.eu/open-call-2/.