

In urbanized areas, **river ecosystems constitute ecological corridors** between fragmented natural areas supporting a **wide biodiversity** and **multiple ecosystem services**, contributing to **improve the sustainability of cities**. Yet, these ecosystems are often **degraded** by lack of space, cuts of riparian vegetation, artificialization of the channels, imperviousness of the margins, water and air pollution, noise, excessive lights, among others. This degradation can lead to **numerous disservices to human populations and biodiversity losses**, and increase the probability of the **emergence of pathogens, lower disease resistance** of wildlife and humans, increasing the probability of **disease severity** and **epidemics**, as well as **diseases** associated to permanence in **stressful environments** found in cities, among others.

SEFS13 | 18 – 23 June 2023 | Newcastle, UK

Protecting Urban Aquatic Ecosystems to Promote One Health – get to know the Project OneAquaHealth

Selected Session: SS08. Freshwater ecosystems and urbanization
– is the sustainable development of cities really possible?

In view of this, arises the project **OneAquaHealth** (Horizon Europe, GA 101086521), involving the participation of **13 partners from 10 different countries**, that aims to demonstrate that the **health of freshwater ecosystems and human health and wellbeing in urban contexts are highly interconnected**, as improving one results in the improvement of the other, re-establishing the balance between nature and humans.

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OneAquaHealth Objectives



IDENTIFY the level of integrity of urban aquatic ecosystems.



DETERMINE adequate early warning indicators to assess ecosystem health and predict disease outbreak risks.



INTEGRATE live Earth observation data to monitor early warning indicators.



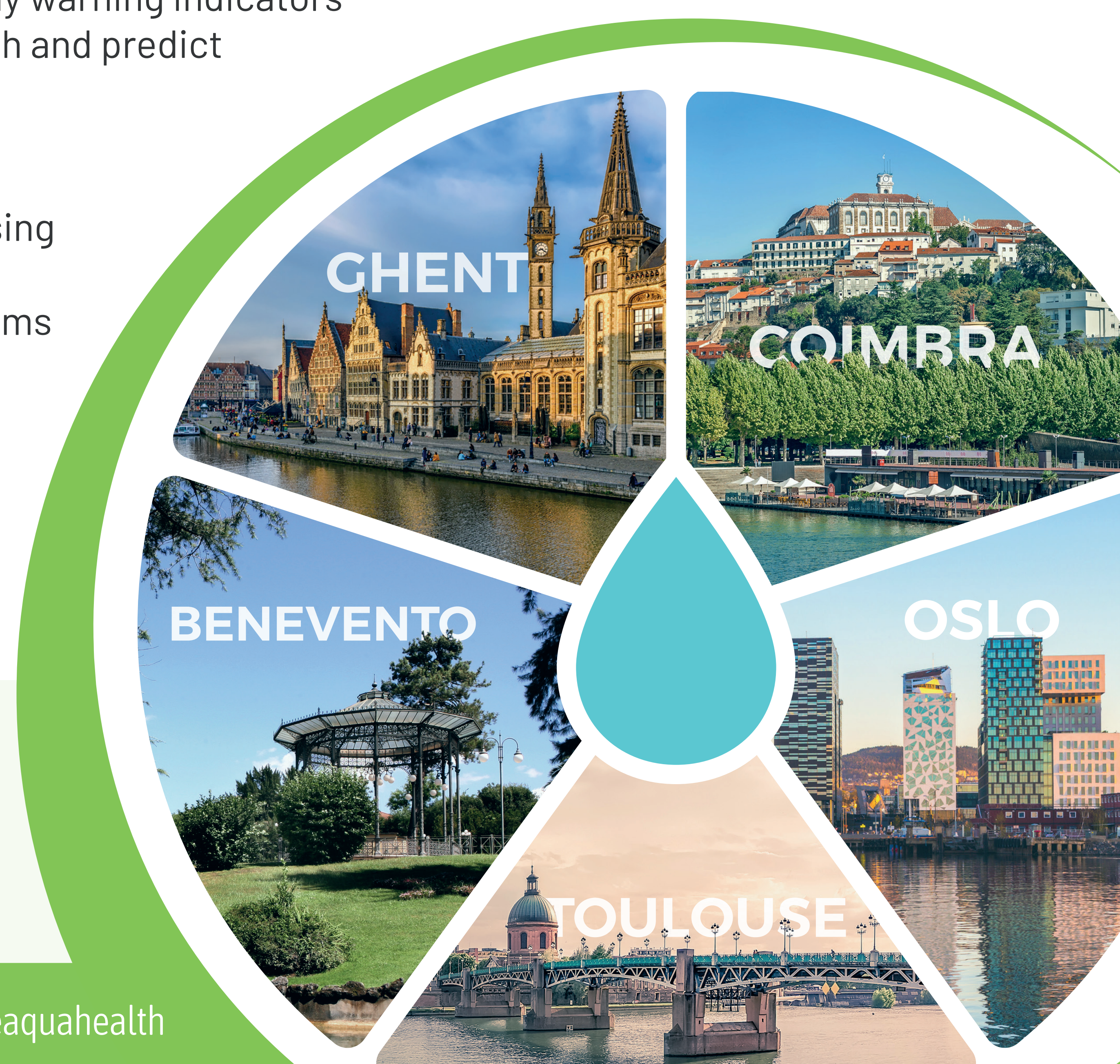
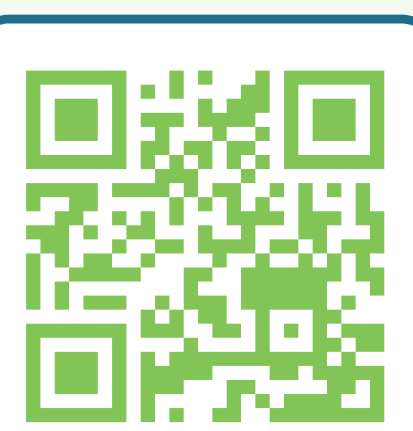
ENGAGE stakeholders raising their awareness to the importance of urban streams



DEVELOP a tool to allow the selection of measures to act upon early warnings and ensure environmental monitoring.

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