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# Community of Practice (CoP) for Digital Transformation

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# Session overview



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**Objective:** To introduce the concept of a Community of Practice (CoP) for Digital Transformation and to gather collective input on preferred engagement mechanisms to ensure its vitality and relevance.

## Agenda:

- Introduction to the CoP concept.
- Group discussion of preferred engagement mechanisms.

# The need for a CoP



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- The Mediterranean region faces acute water stress, impacting over 180 million people, a challenge exacerbated by climate change and aging water infrastructure.
- Digital solutions like sensors, data analytics, and AI are seen as game-changers for improving water use efficiency and sustainability.
- However, realizing this digital potential fundamentally depends on human capacity, as "technology alone is not a standalone solution".
- The UfM Water Agenda emphasizes capacity building and knowledge exchange as catalysts for sustainable water management, identifying digital transformation as a priority.
- A detailed training and capacity building plan has been formulated to equip water professionals in UfM member countries with digital tools.
- A CoP will extend the impact of this training, providing a continuous learning environment beyond formal workshops.

# What is a Community of Practice?



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A Community of Practice is a group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.

## Key characteristics of a CoP include:

**Domain:** A common area of interest, in our case, Digital Transformation for Water and the WEF E Nexus.

**Community:** Members engaging in joint activities and discussions, helping each other, and sharing information.

**Practice:** Members are practitioners, developing a shared repertoire of resources, experiences, and tools.

For our initiative, the CoP will be a vibrant digital water knowledge ecosystem that enables regional collaboration beyond formal training events.



# Vision for our digital water CoP



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Goal: To create a dynamic and sustainable platform for water professionals and stakeholders across the Mediterranean to:

**Share Knowledge:** Exchange best practices, lessons learned, and case studies in digital water management.

**Solve Challenges:** Collaborate on solutions to common technical and institutional hurdles.

**Foster Innovation:** Explore emerging technologies and their application within the water sector.

**Build Networks:** Connect with peers, experts, and potential partners across countries.

**Sustain Capacity Building:** Provide ongoing learning opportunities and peer support after formal training.

The CoP will reinforce the sustainability of capacity-building efforts by fostering a continuous learning environment.



# Benefits of an active CoP



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## For Individuals:

- Access to a rich pool of expertise and practical solutions.
- Opportunities for continuous learning and professional development.
- Expanded professional networks.
- Faster problem-solving through peer support.

## For Institutions/Utilities:

- Enhanced organizational knowledge and capabilities.
- Reduced costs through shared best practices and avoiding reinventing the wheel.
- Faster adoption of new technologies and innovations.
- Improved inter-agency coordination skills..

## For the Region:

- Fostering a cohesive and digitally empowered water sector.
- Accelerating the digital transformation roadmap across UfM member states.
- Enabling data access and transparency for NGOs and civil society.
- Promoting equitable water distribution and conservation practices.
- Steady or growing engagement in the CoP indicates sustained peer learning and networking as a result of the training program, moving beyond formal workshops.

# Online platform features



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## Group discussion





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# Thank You!

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