



MULTISOURCE Technology Selection Tool: publication of web-based tutorials

Deliverable 4.6



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon H2020 innovation action programme under grant agreement 101003527.

Deliverable Number and Name	D4.6 - MULTISOURCE Technology Selection Tool: publication of web-based tutorials
Work Package	WP4 – WP Technology selection tool
Dissemination Level	Public
Author(s)	Josep Pueyo-Ros; Joaquim Comas
Primary Contact and Email	jpueyo@icra.cat
Date Due	28/02/2025
Date Submitted	28/02/2025
File Name	MULTISOURCE_WP4_D4.6
Status	Submitted
Reviewed by (if applicable)	Jaime Nivala
Suggested citation	Pueyo-Ros, J. & Comas, J. (2025) MULTISOURCE Technology Selection Tool: publication of web-based tutorials. MULTISOURCE Deliverable 4.6, H2020 grant no. 101003527

© 2025 MULTISOURCE, this work is openly licensed via [CC-BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except when indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation, or both. Reproduction is authorised if the source is acknowledged.

This document has been prepared in the framework of the European project MULTISOURCE. This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 innovation action programme under grant agreement no. 101003527.

The sole responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the authors. It does not necessarily represent the opinion of the European Union. Neither the EASME nor the European Commission are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	5
1. INTRODUCTION	6
2. WEB-BASED TUTORIALS	6
2.1 INTRODUCTORY VIDEO	6
2.2 TUTORIAL.....	6
2.3 OFFICIAL LAUNCHING WEBINAR	6
3. CONCLUSIONS	7

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nature-based solutions (NBS) have gained prominence as sustainable approaches to urban water management, addressing critical challenges like wastewater treatment and stormwater management while offering additional environmental and social benefits. One of the key advantages of NBS is their role in decentralizing urban water management, allowing cities to distribute water treatment and storage systems across different locations, reducing pressure on traditional centralized infrastructure. However, the selection among the diverse range of available NBS options, each suited to different contexts, presents a significant challenge for decision-makers. The Nat4Wat decision-support system (DSS) was developed to aid in navigating this complexity by assisting stakeholders in selecting, comparing, and evaluating NBS options for wastewater treatment and stormwater management.

This deliverable presents the web-based tutorials that introduce the Nat4Wat tool. They consist in three resources: a short video introducing the capabilities of the tool, a short video explaining how to use the tool and a webinar presenting all the details about Nat4Wat, including the demonstration with two-case studies, followed by a brief section of Q&A.

1. INTRODUCTION

The overarching goal of the MULTISOURCE project is to facilitate the systematic, citywide planning of nature-based solutions for urban water treatment, storage, and reuse. To realize this objective, the project comprises two primary components: the implementation of pilots featuring enhanced natural treatment systems and the development of tools to assist stakeholders and decision-makers in adopting nature-based solutions. The selection, (pre)design and assessment of NBS technologies for water management is a complex problem where decision support tools can help offering quick, consistent, and qualified solutions.

Among the tools created within MULTISOURCE, the Technology Selection Tool serves as a decision-support system, aiding users in choosing the most suitable NBS, including the enhanced natural treatment systems (ENTS) tested in the MULTISOURCE pilots, for a specific water treatment, storage, or reuse scenario. In this context, a water scenario encompasses inflow conditions, outflow requirements, space availability, and other considerations such as the provision of specific ecosystem services or the skills required to operate the technology.

The NBS Technology Selection Tool not only guides users in choosing and pre-designing the most adequate technology for the water scenario but also considers various other variables of interest, including cost, surface requirements, environmental impact, co-benefits (multifunctionality), and operational needs. This multiple criteria assessment allows a comparison and overall ranking of all viable technologies for a given scenario.

Keeping these objectives in mind, the aim of this deliverable is to present the web-based tutorials that we have published to help user to navigate the use of Nat4Wat, which can be easily and freely accessible through <https://nat4wat.icra.cat>.

2. WEB-BASED TUTORIALS

2.1 INTRODUCTORY VIDEO

The first resource is an introductory video designed to introduce the capabilities of Nat4Wat and explain why one should use this tool. The video is embedded in the home page of Nat4Wat to attract curious visitors and encourage them to explore the tool.

Available here: <https://youtu.be/BLmCQue7rp0>

2.2 TUTORIAL

The second resource is a four-minutes tutorial explaining how to use Nat4Wat, following all the necessary steps to:

- Log in
- Create a scenario
- Compare suitable solutions
- Get insights on the selected solution.

Available here: <https://youtu.be/gzMwcVMiSys>

2.3 OFFICIAL LAUNCHING WEBINAR

The third source is a 1-hour webinar introducing all the details about Nat4Wat. It includes:

- A short presentation of the project and challenges addressed by the tool

- Presentation of the MULTISOURCE Nat4Wat tool including methodology for development, functionalities and usage guidance.
- Live demonstration using two case studies

The presentation lasted for 35 minutes, followed by 25 minutes of questions and answers by the audience.

Available here: <https://youtu.be/SbO6dpiiHQ4>

2.4 NEW MARKET CASES FROM COMPANIES

Companies wishing to showcase their market cases in Nat4Wat can do so through the following process:

1. **Registration:** Companies register like regular users activating the checkbox “I am a company”, which asks for additional information: logo, website and public email.
2. **Upload:** After registration, companies can upload their market cases through a standardized online form integrated in Nat4Wat. Each submission requires a description, location, year of construction, costs, surface area, and a photo.
3. **Validation:** All submitted cases are reviewed by independent experts in NBS for water and stormwater management before publication to ensure reliability and quality.
4. **Visibility:** Approved cases are displayed in the tool with the company’s logo, description, and website link. Users can directly contact the company through the platform.

2.5 EXPLOITATION PLAN

To ensure the long-term sustainability and uptake of Nat4Wat, ICRA contracted an external consultant to develop a dedicated business and exploitation plan. The plan highlights several key strategies:

- **Open access model for users:** Nat4Wat remains freely accessible for end users to maximize adoption.
- **Freemium/premium model for providers:** Companies can publish basic market cases for free, while premium plans may include access to user leads, additional visibility, and advanced functionalities.
- **Community and partnerships:** Building an active user and provider community, collaborating with networks (IWA, Oppla, NetworkNature), and engaging ambassadors are critical to scale adoption.
- **Sustainability measures:** Regular technical updates, alignment with EU policy frameworks, and a diversified funding strategy (projects, collaborations, optional premium services) will support long-term viability.
- **Marketing and outreach:** A dedicated plan includes SEO optimization, newsletters, targeted B2B campaigns, and presence in major sectoral fairs and congresses.

These measures will ensure that Nat4Wat remains a living, credible, and sustainable tool, attractive both for users and technology providers.

3. CONCLUSIONS

The Nat4Wat decision-support system (DSS) provides a comprehensive and user-friendly tool for selecting and comparing NBS for urban water management. By integrating multicriteria decision analysis (MCDA), the tool assists decision-makers in navigating the complex trade-offs among various NBS options, ensuring that solutions are both environmentally sustainable and context-appropriate. Nat4Wat aims at guiding users in making informed decisions that balance technical, economic, and social factors.

Furthermore, the tool fosters transparency and stakeholder participation, key elements for the successful implementation of decentralized water management systems. As urban water challenges intensify, tools like Nat4Wat are crucial in promoting more resilient, distributed, and sustainable water infrastructures. The resources introduced in this deliverable will help to overcome the entrance barriers that decision-support systems usually have when trying to attract new potential users.

The overall goal of MULTISOURCE is to, together with local, national, and international stakeholders, demonstrate a variety of about Enhanced Natural Treatment Solutions (ENTS) treating a wide range of urban waters and to develop innovative tools, methods, and business models that support citywide planning and long-term operations and maintenance of nature-based solutions for water treatment, storage, and reuse in urban areas worldwide. The project includes seven pilots treating a wide range of urban waters. Two individual municipalities (Girona, Spain; Oslo, Norway), two metropolitan municipalities (Lyon, France; Milan, Italy), and international partners in Brazil, Vietnam, and the USA will contribute to each of the main project activities: ENTS pilots, risk assessment, business models, technology selection, and the MULTISOURCE Planning Platform. The use of urban archetypes in the Planning Platform will enable users to quickly classify regions (in both developed or developing countries) suitable for the application of nature-based solutions for water treatment (NBSWT) and compare scenarios both with and without NBSWT.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon H2020 innovation action programme under grant agreement 101003527.