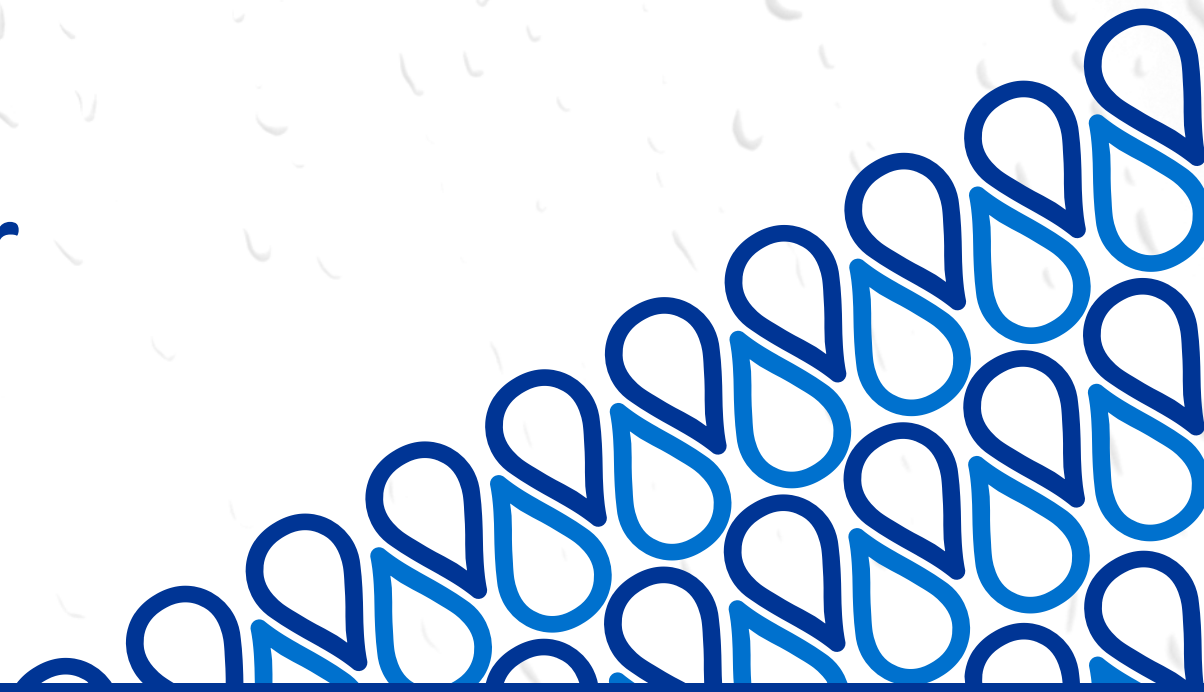




Water Breakthrough Challenge

Round 4 Launch Webinar and live Q&A

Wednesday 6 September 2023





Ofwat Innovation Fund Delivery Team – Who We Are



Water Services Regulation Authority, has oversight of the Innovation Fund.



Administers the Fund on behalf of Ofwat. First point of contact for all enquires.



Technical advisors to the Fund ensuring insights and learnings transform the water sector.



Panellists- who you will hear from today

Elettra Pellanda



Rachel Wright



Hesham Afifi



Oli Raud



What we'll cover today

1

The Ofwat Innovation Fund

- Ofwat's Innovation Fund – at a glance
- Ofwat's priorities

2

Water Breakthrough Challenge 4 - Overview

- Catalyst and Transform Streams
- What's changed
- Timeline

3

How to Enter

- Support for your entry
- Getting involved

4

What we are looking for

- Who can be involved
- The assessment categories
- The assessment process
- Requirements for successful entries
- Lessons from past winners

5

Scaling impact and broadening participation

- Case studies and voices from across the sector

6

Q&A (via Slido)



Ofwat Innovation Fund

£200 million of funding has been unlocked through to 2024, to unleash a wave of innovation in the water sector – plus at least a **further £300 million** through to 2030.



416

entries across all competitions, with

>700

organisations involved collaboratively in these entries.



Over £100 million has been awarded to **77 initiatives**, all pursuing innovative solutions to some of the most pressing challenges facing the water sector.

Innovation themes

The Fund supports innovations which deliver benefits to customers, society and the environment and address one or more of these themes



Responding and adapting to climate change including achieving the sector ambitions of net zero carbon, zero waste and zero leakage.



Protecting and enhancing the environment and natural systems, to protect current and future customers from the impacts of extreme weather and pollution.



Delivering long-term operational resilience and understanding infrastructure risks to customers and the environment, finding solutions to mitigate these in sustainable and efficient ways.



Testing new ways of conducting core activities to deliver the services customers and society need, expect and value both now and in the future.



Ofwat's priorities

Over the past few years, we've seen the Fund start to drive impact – but Ofwat are interested in seeing more projects consider:

Impact at Scale: Ambitious innovation projects, with an emphasis on actively sharing data and knowledge, and either adopting and rolling out new solutions, if successful; or actively sharing data and knowledge.

Cross-sector collaboration: Projects which bring in inspiration, solutions and partners from outside of the water sector.

Engagement from smaller water companies & NAVs: Projects led or partnered with smaller water companies, NAVs and water retailers.

Equity, diversity and inclusion: Projects which have equity, diversity and inclusion at their heart, and ensure that diverse perspectives have been considered within their project team, and for their customers.



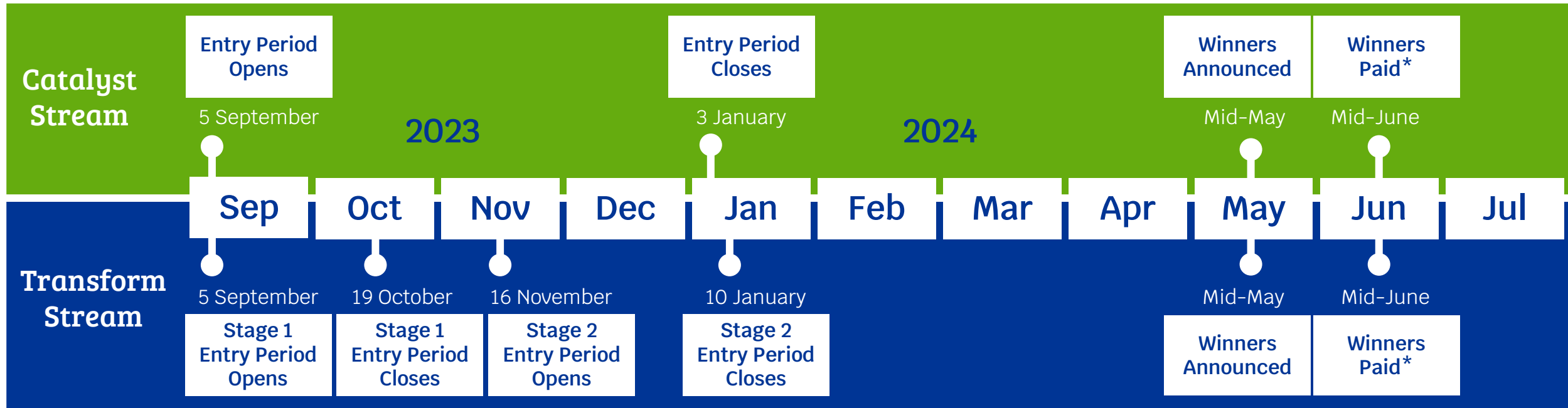
Water Breakthrough Challenge 4

5 September 2023





Water Breakthrough Challenge 4 – Timelines



* Subject to water company payment timelines

Catalyst Stream



Water
Breakthrough
Challenge



Opens 5 September 2023



~£10 million available



£150k – £2 million per entry



Single-stage entry process



Closes 3 January 2024

Transform Stream



Water
Breakthrough
Challenge



Opens 5 September 2023



~£30 million available



£2 million – £10 million per entry



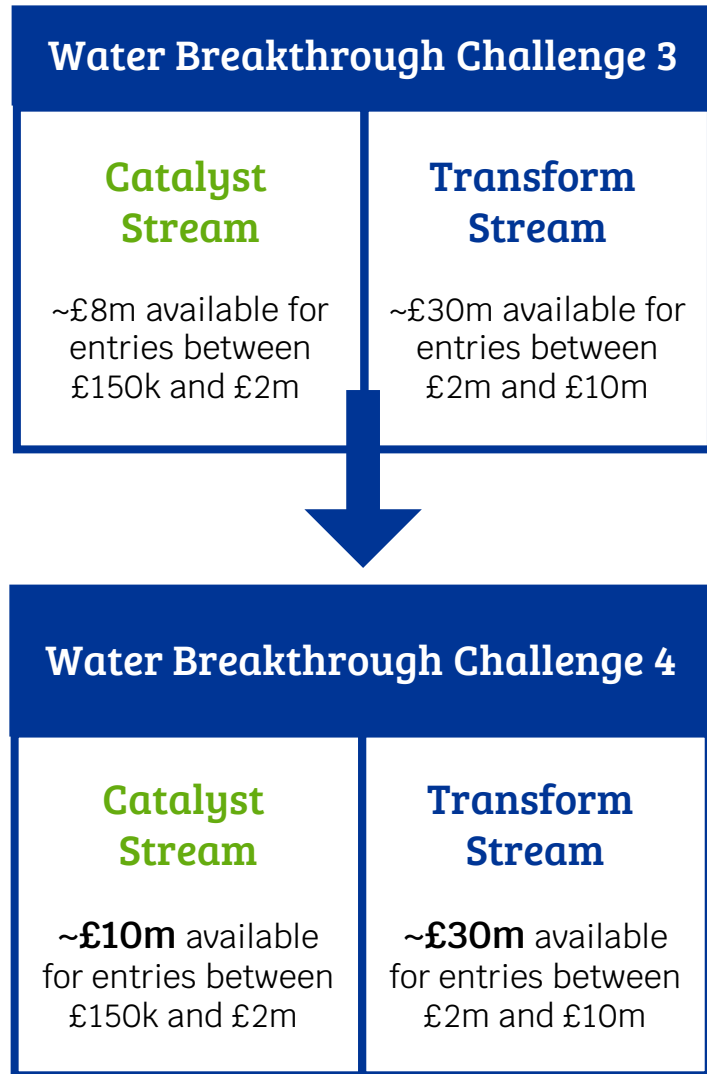
2-stage entry process



Stage 1 closes 19 October 2023



Changes from Round 3



- ✓ Process Updates
- ✓ Streamlined timelines
- ✓ Unified judging panel for both streams
- ✓ Live Q&A with judges
- ✓ Entry questions and guidance on knowledge and foreground IP
- ✓ Collaboration agreement example
- ✓ Entering the Catalyst Stream if unsuccessful in Transform stage 1
- ✓ Eligibility of Water Discovery Challenge Finalists



Support for your entry

**Webinar
recording**

**Entrant
Handbook**

**One-to-One
Surgeries**

**Entrant
Support
Materials**

For more information, visit:
waterinnovation.challenges.org/breakthrough4/entrant-support/



How to enter

Entry form via
Submittable



Pitch recording
session

Catalyst Stream
pitch booking
deadline:

17 Nov 2023
5 pm

Transform
Stream
pitch booking
deadline:

29 Sep 2023
5 pm

A summary of the entry process is available at:

waterinnovation.challenges.org/breakthrough4/get-involved/



Who can enter

Water Company or
NAV in England &
Wales*



Partner(s)



Assessment categories

1

Positive impact for water customers, society, and the environment

2

Innovation enablers and innovative solutions

3

Capacity, capability, and commitment to deliver



1. Positive impact for water customers, society and the environment

Strong entries will:

- Address a significant need or opportunity for customers, society and/or the environment
- Align with one (or more) of Ofwat's four strategic innovation themes
- Will, or could, be effective in addressing needs or opportunities for customers, society and/or the environment
- Set out a realistic reflection of external risks and how the potential benefits to customers, society and the environment outweigh these risks.





2. Innovation enablers and innovative solutions

Strong entries will:

- Use innovative approaches and/or solutions which would not reasonably be expected to be funded as part of business-as-usual and/or develops innovative enablers which accelerates practice beyond business-as-usual
- Set out the potential for adoption at scale across the water sector.





3. Capacity, capability and commitment to deliver

Strong entries will:

- Show commitment to the entry
- Be delivered by a team with the relevant skills and experience
- Set out a realistic and achievable programme
- Demonstrate a realistic and considered costing which provides efficient use of customer funds
- Demonstrate a clear and proportionate approach to addressing risk





The assessment process



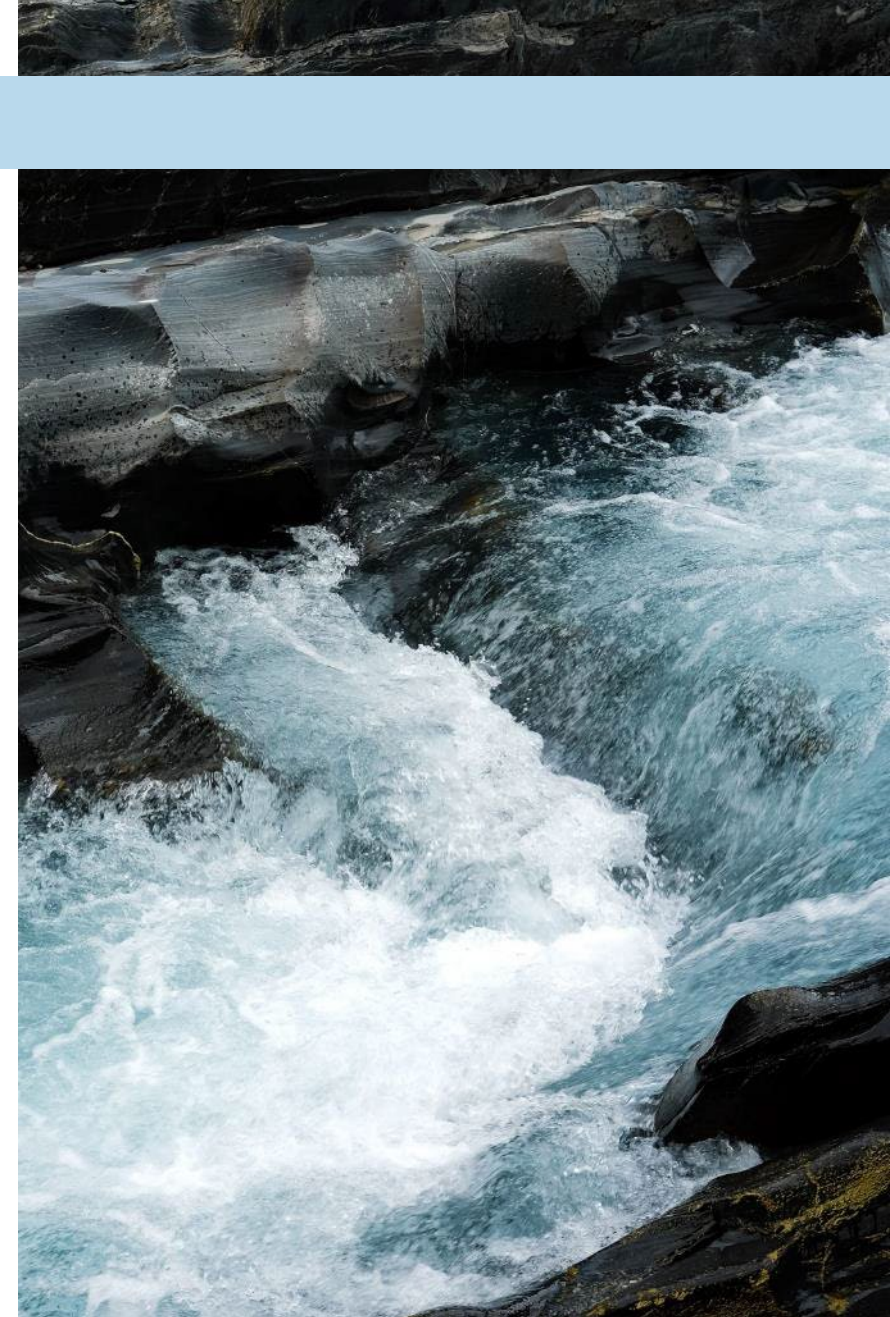


Requirements for Successful Entries

The **Terms and Conditions** remain largely consistent with the previous round, with an update regarding the possibility to enter Catalyst Stream if you have been unsuccessful in Stage 1 of the Transform Stream.

There are requirements regarding:

- Use of funding (how you use the funds)
- Open Data by Default
- 10% contribution
- Monitoring & reporting requirements
- Regulatory reporting
- Intellectual property rights (IPR)
- Publicity
- Conflicts of Interest
- Settlement Arrangement





Lessons from past winners



Governance: Ensure you've agreed how the project will be governed, and the role of each partner.



Contracts & Agreements: Ensure you have started discussing contractual arrangements with partners, including developing collaboration agreements and allowing sufficient time in the project plan for these to be completed (if they aren't already in place).



Procurement: Consider your procurement needs, and possible supply chain delays.



Regulatory Requirements: Consider any regulatory requirements; you may wish to reach out to StreamLine, the regulatory advice service for innovators in England and Wales, run jointly by Ofwat, the Drinking Water Inspectorate and the Environment Agency.



Resourcing: Consider resourcing requirements for each stage of the project, with mitigations in place for any changes.

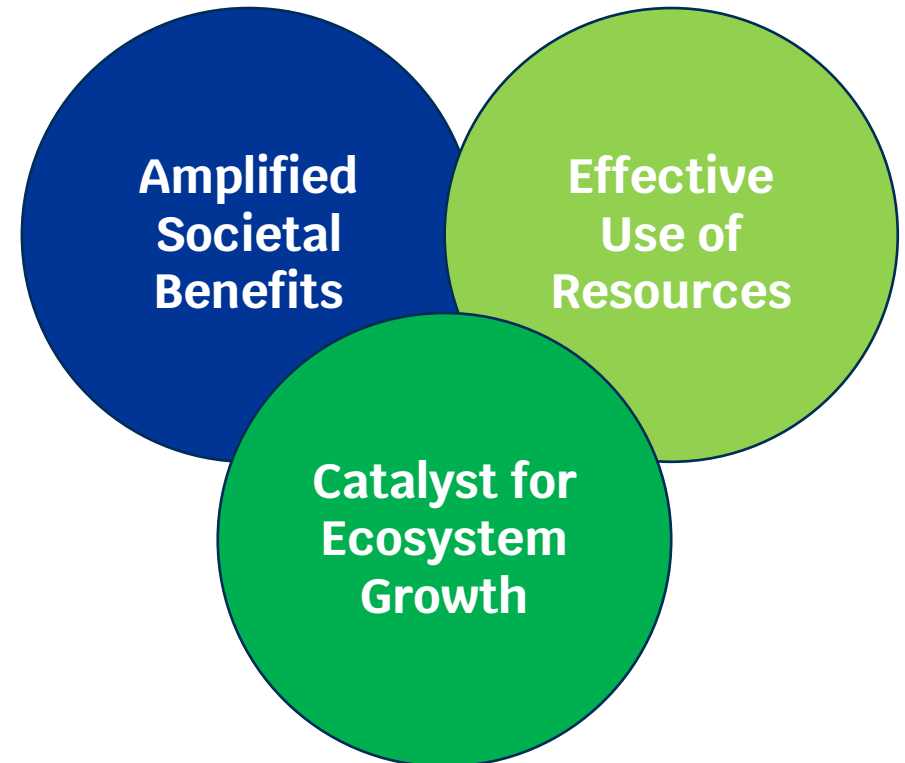


Scaling impact and why it's important

Successful scaling of impact ensures:

- innovations have a broader reach
- breaking down of siloes
- overall growth of innovation ecosystems
- sustainable and lasting positive outcomes.

The Ofwat Innovation Fund is seeking leaders in this space to bring lasting impact and legacy to the projects funded by water customers of England and Wales.





Engaging and activating communities – FIWARE4WATER

Case Study FIWARE4WATER:

Great Torrington (Devon) saw the creation of a local water forum which included a multi-partner, multi-agency approach, alongside gamification and innovative engagement strategies to empower customers towards water efficiency by using smart meters.

"Quintuple Helix" – right people at the table

Public sector, researchers, the private sector, cultural entities and the local community.





Stop and listen...

- Good things happen when you listen...
 - Communities and stakeholders take the lead
 - Ownership
 - Sustainability and legacy
- Listening allows you to co-design project solutions, during implementation and afterwards, turning passive beneficiaries into active advocates.
- Go further and wider than your project team are able or where traditional water company skills and approaches have been deployed... it's not just marketing.



Top tips for innovative dissemination to support scaling



Get the basics right



Go live



Keep the right profile



Think Visual



Encourage Participation



Respect Diversity



Open Science & Data for Maximum Impact



Find the right tools



Remix traditional outputs

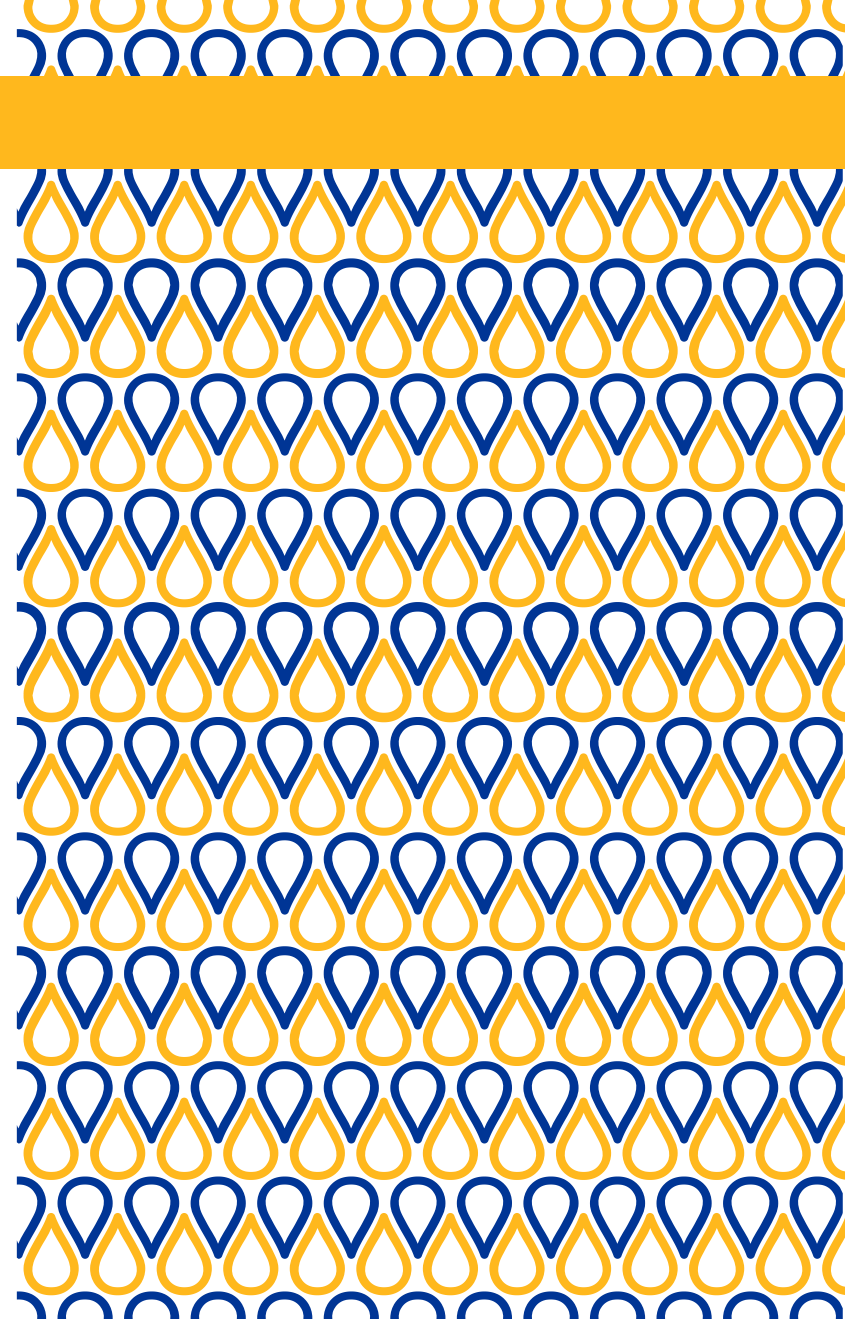
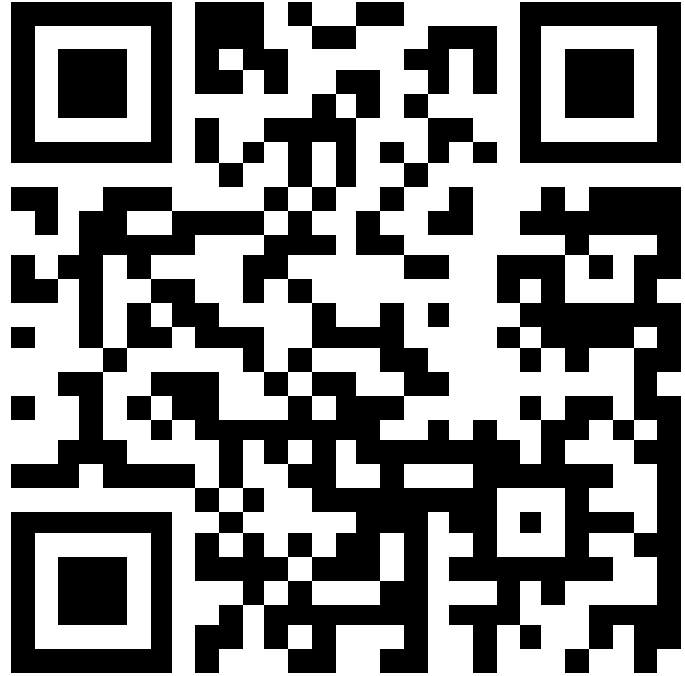


Evaluate, evaluate, evaluate



Q&A

Pop your questions in Slido!



More questions?

Check out the FAQs:

waterinnovation.challenges.org/breakthrough4/faqs

If you can't find an answer, contact us:

waterinnovation@challengeworks.org

Sign up for Breakthrough 4 and Fund updates:

waterinnovation.challenges.org/newsletter

Thank you!

