

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Novatech is an international conference dedicated to strategies and solutions for integrated and sustainable stormwater management in urban planning.

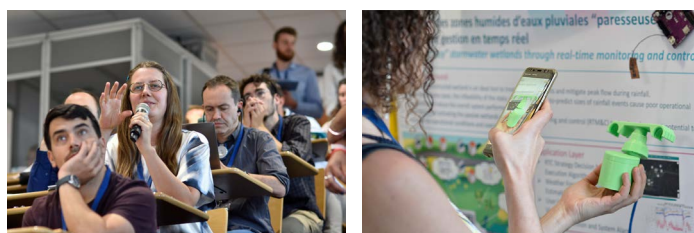
Answer the call for abstracts until 5 December 2025.

Rendez-vous in Lyon from 29 June to 3 July 2026!

Scientists, decision-makers, facilitators, managers, and designers from France and around the world come to Novatech to showcase and learn about the latest innovations and experiences.

Novatech welcomes both **water stakeholders**—sanitation and aquatic environments—and **land use stakeholders**—urban planners, developers, landscapers, architects, and sociologists. It thus promotes the development of a common culture of urban water management, contributes to knowledge transfer, and encourages the evolution of cross-sector ambitions and practices.

Join this community of high-level professionals from a variety of fields to showcase your projects!



Communicate at Novatech 2026

Your expertise and achievements are at the heart of the conference

By taking part in the 12th Novatech conference, you contribute to the development of knowledge and practices for a more integrated and sustainable urban water management. The conference and discussions between participants are built around your research, achievements and feedback.

Your expertise and achievements are highlighted

Either in response to the call for abstracts or the Trophies, the diversity of presentation formats offers you numerous opportunities to showcase and discuss the outcome of your work. Novatech is committed to featuring your abstracts on this website and in the Hal Novatech collection.

The Finalists of 2026 Thierry Maytraud Awards will be highlighted in the technical press.

Novatech, a unique opportunity in France to...

- **Get inspired:** enjoy an overview of practices in cities around the world in terms of urban planning, development and incentive policies for sustainable urban management and climate change adaptation.
- **Develop skills:** learn about the latest innovative technical solutions integrating research results, for a sustainable water management in the city and the optimisation of the current systems, in order to face the problems of flooding, pollution and health risks.
- **Gain new perspectives:** discuss your questions, issues and solutions with passionate professionals and researchers who are committed to making a difference, often leading to new partnerships and collaborations.

3 days of conferences
from 30 June to 2 July

220 selected papers, oral presentations and posters, representative of research and practices in around **thirty countries**, one-third of which are in Europe.

50% of scientists,
50% operational stakeholders.

Novatech is also...

- **Plenary conferences** opening up broader perspectives on sustainable water management in the city.
- **The Thierry Maytraud Awards**, to promote exemplary development and urban planning operations and strategies in terms of stormwater management.
- **Special sessions** on starting projects and knowledge transfer.
- **Specialized workshops** and seminars **on Monday** and **technical tours on Friday** to promote mutual understanding and exchange.

Themes and expected communications

Stormwater management in urban planning is a major challenge that is increasingly being incorporated into public policy, with an urgent need to take action and adapt in light of climate change.

It remains difficult to implement due to the complexity of the phenomena involved, specific regional characteristics, and the need for cross-cutting approaches. Solutions are emerging and being developed around the world.

The principles for “water-responsible” territories proposed by the IWA offer a methodological framework specifically adapted to the management of stormwater in urban planning: a systemic and integrated approach to water and urban planning, collaborative actions, and sober and adaptable solutions.

We expect submissions that enable us to better respond to the challenges of our time:

- Taking **climate change** into account and adapting to it
- Developing **multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral approaches**, addressing stormwater management in conjunction with other disciplines and urban policies
- **Mobilizing data** and the new possibilities offered by digital technology and artificial intelligence
- Facilitating **knowledge transfer** and the evolution of professional cultures and practices

Themes



Structures & stormwater management system

- Stormwater management solutions at the source
- Solutions based on nature, triptych water-soil-plant triptych, functioning, efficiency and specific features, diversity
- Integration into the stormwater management system
- Technical innovations, metrology
- Asset management
- Operation and optimization of centralized and decentralized systems, with regard to current and future water flows and pollution.



Development & urban planning

- Designing urban planning with water in mind, and designing water systems with urban planning in mind: sobriety, health, living spaces, etc.
- Urban growth, fight against urban heat islands
- Reconstruction and adaptation of public and private developments (industrial, commercial and residential)
- New urban forms, permeable city, etc.



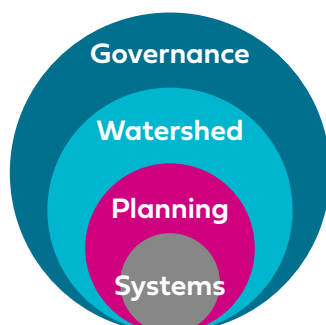
Watershed & Resource

- Pollution and water quality (stormwater monitoring, road runoff, urban discharges)
- Impacts on rivers, resource conservation, groundwater infiltration and recharge
- Monitoring and modeling
- Turning stormwater into a resource, etc.



Society & Governance

- Local, national and international strategies and regulations
- Cross-sectoral public policies
- Transitions management
- Stormwater financing
- Organizations adaptation, perceptions
- Support and networking for stakeholders
- Knowledge transfer and professionals training
- Barriers and leverages, etc.



Expected abstracts



Scientific and/or technical abstracts

Presentation of research methods or results linked to operational needs in the social sciences, natural sciences, and/or engineering sciences, using multidisciplinary approaches based on bibliographical analysis, laboratory tests, modeling, or in situ monitoring. Innovative technical achievements, monitored and put into perspective.



Feedback

Feedback on operations that have been running for several years, comparisons between different strategies, scales, or structures

Presentation of public policies, local planning and animation and mobilisation of inhabitants, strategies of waterwise territories (agglomeration or watershed).

Reflections on governance and keys for change towards integrated stormwater management.

Special sessions



Starting projects Poster Session

Stormwater management calls for multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral research and approaches. It is all the more relevant as it incorporates a diversity of perspectives and skills.

We invite project leaders to share their initiative in a poster format, even if they are in the early stages! Novatech conference is the perfect opportunity to discuss your project with experts and scientists from various disciplines, gather feedback and develop your ideas.

A new project? Make it known now!



Training, pedagogy, teaching Special session

Researchers, legislators, and professionals are concerned about the difficulties encountered in applying research to the development of public policies, regulations, and practices in the field of stormwater management. This transformation also requires initial and continuing training to change cultures, knowledge, and skills through a multidisciplinary and interprofessional approach.

Are you actively implementing the interface between science and water management? Are you developing educational or interactive resources or approaches? Come and share your experiences with us!

Thierry Maytraud Awards



**Trophées
Thierry
Maytraud**

A specific call for abstracts is being organised for the Thierry Maytraud Awards. [All the information can be found here.](#)

Selection

The scientific committee and programme committee draw on the themes and issues defined above, as well as the opinions of scientific and technical experts, to select the proposed papers and decide how they will be divided between oral presentations and posters.

Communications are assessed according to the following criteria:

- o **Consistency** with the conference topics
- o **Innovation** (originality of approach, relevance of subject, results never previously presented...) or exemplarity nature of the project or approach
- o **Quality of the work** presented (including bibliographical references for scientific papers)
- o **Transferability** of information and experience
- o **Clarity** of communication (approach, objectives, conclusions, and editorial quality)

The selection and choice of oral or poster presentations will also take into account the coherence of the sessions and the time available. **The same author may submit several abstracts but will only be able to present one orally.**

KEY DATES

Abstract submissions
5 December 2025

Selection notice
End of February 2026

Registrations
Mid-March 2026

Conference
from 29 June
till 3 July 2026



Conference partners

Technical & financial partners



Partner NGOs



The conference is organized by



Novatech 2026 Presidents

Frédéric CHERQUI, INSA Lyon - DEEP - France

Tim FLETCHER, The University of Melbourne - Australie

Novatech general secretary

Elodie BRELOT, Graie - France

Scientific Committee

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- **Alberto CAMPISANO**, University of Catania - Italie
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- **Andres TORRES**, Instituto Javeriano del Agua - Colombie
- **Bert VAN DUIN**, City of Calgary - Canada
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