AGREEMAR

Project deliverables

Deliverable #D6.1

Project website

AGREEMAR

Adaptive agreements on benefits sharing for managed aquifer recharge in the Mediterranean region

Deliverable #D6.1

Project website

Author(s)

Catalin Stefan (TUD)

Executive summary

This report describes the website of the AGREEMAR project. The website was developed by the Research Group INOWAS at Technische Universität Dresden and launched in July 2022. The website serves as central tool for dissemination of project results and external communication. The URL of the website is: https://www.agreemar.inowas.com.

Work package	WP6. Project management
Deliverable number and title	D6.1 Project website
Partner responsible	Technische Universität Dresden (TUD)
Deliverable author(s)	Catalin Stefan (TUD)
Quality assurance	Jana Glass (TUD)
Planned delivery date	August 2022
Actual delivery date	31 August 2022
Citation	Stefan, C. 2022. AGREEMAR Deliverable D6.1: Internet website of the AGREEMAR project. Available online at https://www.agreemar.inowas.com/deliverables.
Photo credits (cover)	@ Jessy Smith | Unsplash (adapted)
Dissemination level	PU (Public)

Revision history

Version	Date	Author	Remarks
V0.1	22.07.2022	Catalin Stefan (TUD)	First version
V1.0	31.08.2022	Catalin Stefan (TUD)	Updated

Abstract

The present deliverable D6.1 describes the structure and the content of the dedicated website for the AGREEMAR project. The website was created by the project coordinator who is also in charge of its maintenance and regular updates. Several guiding principles were considered in the website development such as accessibility, user-friendliness, modern responsive design, intuitive navigation, software compatibility, customization and long-term life-time beyond project finalization. The website consists of two parts: a public platform implemented in WordPress and an internal collaborative workspace installed in MS SharePoint. The address of the website is https://www.agremar.inowas.com/.

Table of contents

List of figures

1 Background

The overall objective of Deliverable D6.1 is to create a modern and user-friendly website for the AGREEMAR project following the current web development standards. The use of the website needs to be intuitive, the structure shall be logical and easy to navigate through it, the content must be informative without overwelming the reader and accessible according to national and EU legal provisions.

Specifically, the website development intended to respect the following guiding principles:

- To develop an appealing visual identity of the project
- To present key information of the project to stakeholders
- To provide a mean to disseminate the actions and outputs from the project
- To allow barrier-free content accessibility according to existing regulations
- To create a high level of attractivity and user-friendliness
- To enable an intuitive and fast navigation experience
- To accommodate easy implementation of features and functionalities
- To create two separate platforms for external outreach and internal communication
- To allow easy software maintenance and content updates
- To safeguard long-term existence of the website beyong project completion
- To minimize the resources needed for website development and maintenance
- To facilitate integration with other web-tools and software used by the project

2 Website implementation

The website of the AGREEMAR project (https://www.agreemar.inowas.com/) was launched in July 2022 as part the Work Package 6 "Project management", task 6.2 "External communication and outreach". The website is managed by the project coordinator and WP6 leader, TUD, with content being provided by all members of the consortium.

To facilitate the separation between the general public platform for dissemination and outreach and the internal commnication workflow and data management within the consortium, the project website is comprised of two parts:

1. The **public website**: a platform for communication and dissemination of project results and interractions with project-relavant stakeholders.

2. The **collaborative platform**: an internal workspace accessible only by the project consortium and used to monitor the project progress and share working documents.

2.1 The public area

2.1.1 Software infrastructure

The public area of the AGREEMAR project website was developed using WordPress, a free and open-source Content Management System (www.wordpress.org). The software provides a very flexible and user-friendly platform for the development of websites of various scales and complexities. Specifically, WordPress was selected for its very easy customization, no setup costs, collaborative content management, cross-platform and browser compatibility, and wide availabilty of plugins and extensionss. A modern graphic theme was installed and adapted to the project needs, with special efforts dedicated to making the website widely accessible according to current standards.

To safeguard long-term availability of its content, the website was deployed on a sub-domain ('agreemar') of the main internet domain of the research group INOWAS at TU Dresden (www.inowas.com). The inowas.com wesbsite is hosting also the groundwater modelling platform used in the project, a core product developed by the INOWAS group since 2014, commonly used in various research projects and training applications. By adoption this solution, no financial resources are neede to cover the costs of a dedicated domain name and hosting package, the project website being thus available also after the project finalization.

2.1.2 Website content

The presentation of the website content is done by combining two display methods:

a) a continuous **one-page** approach (in which the most relevant content of the website is presented in sections that are accessible by simply scrolling down the first page of the website). The advantage of this approach is that it allows a very fast navigation through the website content, with the possibility to click a link to *read more* about a specific topic.

b) **static** content pages (in which additional content is displayed in separate pages by clicking the links of a menu). The advantage of this approach is that more detailed content can be displayed in separate pages, often with the possibiliy of further hyerarchical structures (sub-pages).

a) The **one-page** approach includes the following sections:

INTRO section: the 'INTRO' section includes the primary menu, the project logo and title superimposed on an image slideshow, together with the logo of the PRIMA program and links to project description and latest news (Figure 1). On the bottom, the logos of the project partners are displayed.

Figure 1.   The 'INTRO' section including the primary menu, a slide show of suggestive stock images and the logos of project partners and PRIMA program

CHALLENGES section: the CHALLENGES section is represented by a catchy image and a short statement describing the motivation of the project. The role of the section is to sensibilize the reader to the main challenges related to water scarcity in the Mediterranean basin and to faciitate the introduction of the project approach.
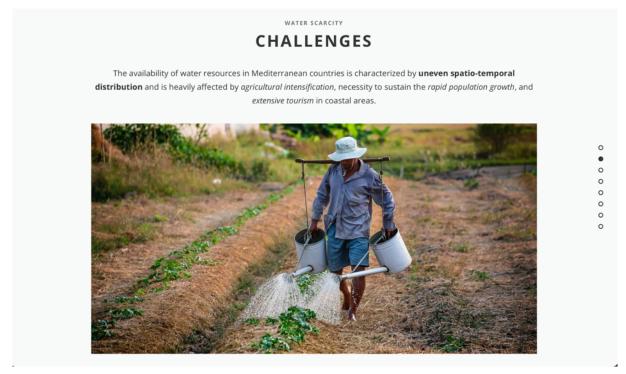

Figure 2.   *The Challenges section aims to attract reader's attention to water-related challenges faced by countries in the Mediterranean basin*

SOLUTION section: the research approach of the project is introduced in the section 'OUR SOLUTION', with four sub-sections: a) feasibility mapping for MAR, b) groundwater modelling, c) governance systems, and d) stakeholders' engagement. Later on, the sub-sections will include links to separate pages with more details, interim results etc.
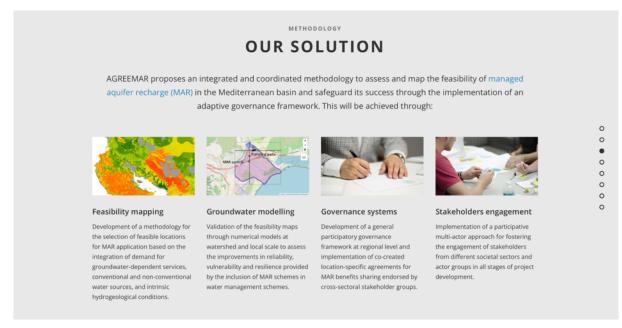

Figure 3.   *The research approach of the project is introduced in the Solution section, which includes four sub-sections: a) feasibility mapping for MAR, b) groundwater modelling, c) governance systems, and d) stakeholders' engagement*

NUTSHELL section: here, an overview is provided for the most relevant sections of the website, including general facts about the project, our demo sites, the work plan with objectives and timeline, project partners, main objectives, short description of the PRIMA program etc. This overview will be extended in the future with project results and other sub-sections. To facilitate easy navigation, each sub-section includes a link to a separate, dedicated page with more information about each category.
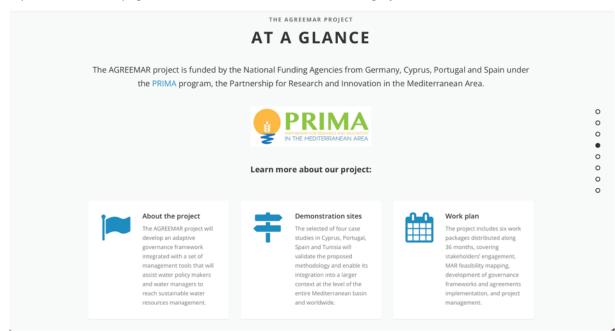

Figure 4.   An overview of main relevant components of the website is provided in the section The project at a glance

DEMO SITES section: it includes a schematic representation of the four demo sites of the AGREEMAR project, with geospatial representation of the main regional demo site in each country and a cropped image of the pre-identified local sites. Links are provided for separate pages with more information about each site.
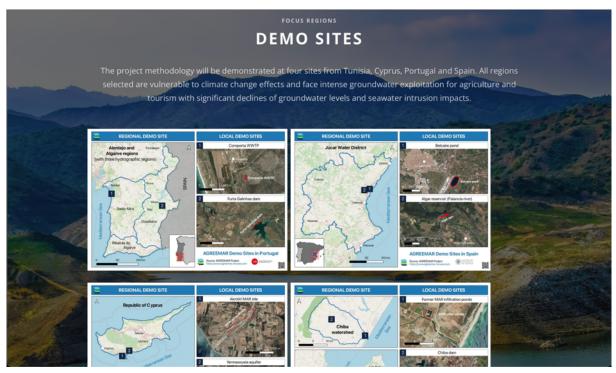

Figure 5.   The section Demo sites includes the maps of the four project case studies in Portugal, Spain, Cyprus and Tunisia

     Adaptive agreements on benefits sharing for managed aquifer recharge in the Mediterranean region

WHAT IS MAR section: this section introduces the concept of managed aquifer recharge (MAR) with a short definition and a sketch with the integration of MAR in the hydrological cycle. A link is provided to the external knowledge base of the INOWAS platform were the concept is explained in detail with several examples of MAR techniques, case studies etc.
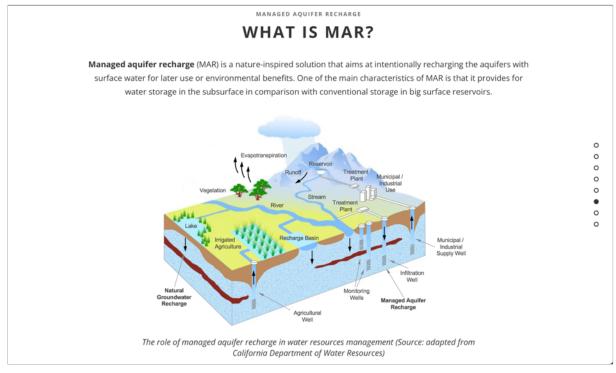

Figure 6.   The general concept of managed aquifer recharge (MAR) is presented in the section entitled What is MAR

NEWS section: it includes short articles about relevant events, project progress reports, meetings with stakeholders, etc. The news are organised in a blog-style format, each project partner having the possibility to publish articles in the news section.
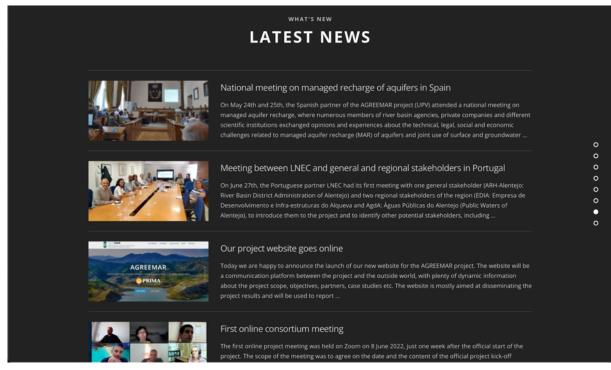

Figure 7.   The News section in blog format includes articles about project progress, meetings, etc.

TWITTER section: a WordPress pluging was used to integrate the latest Twitter posts in a dedicated section on the website *one-page* template. The Twitter address of the project is @agreemarPRIMA. The plugin offers several customization options and the information is dynamic (the content is automatically updated when new tweets are posted).

Figure 8.   *The dynamic Twitter section includes the lasted posts from the project's Twitter channel*

FOOTER section: this is the bottom section of the one-page website template and includes the acknowledgement text to project funding, the logos of the project agencies and the contact details of the project coordinator. Additionally, the sidebar includes a secondary menu with legal information according to regulations (imprint, privacy and accesability), as well as a link to the internal communication platform (SharePoint).

Figure 9.   *The Footer section includes acknowledgement, contact details, a secondary menu and a link to SharePoint platform*

b) The primary header menu provides links to **static pages** (Figure 10): project objectives (A), research approach (B), work plan (C), demo sites (D), project partners (E), PRIMA program (F), resources (G), contact (H).
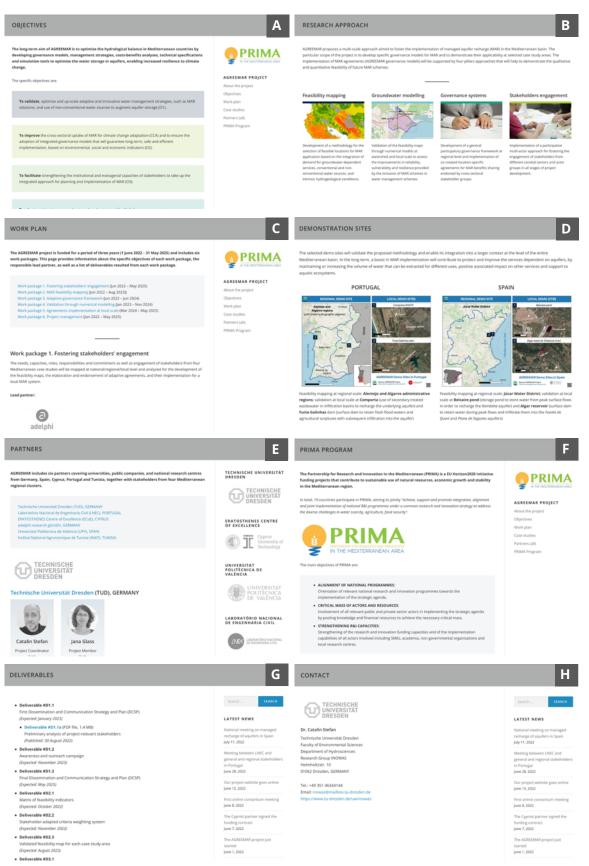

Figure 10.   *Individual static pages accessible from the primary menu included in the website header*

     Adaptive agreements on benefits sharing for managed aquifer recharge in the Mediterranean region

2.2 The internal area

A collaborative intranet workspace was created in order to facilitate the management of all project information, including different types of working documents and deliverables. The software selected was Microsoft SharePoint[1], a service offered free of charge by the TUD's IT department. The platform was created by the project coordinator and is accessible only to project consortium members who can read the content online, upload and download documents, text, images, collaborate on documents etc. The service is available at the following address: https://sharepoint.tu-dresden.de/projects/agreemar.

The SharePoint platform offers the following solutions:

- **Document management**: create, edit and share documents, and collaborate on them in real-time, compatible with conventional MS Office formats

- **Project management**: create tasks, track project timeline, collect minutes of meetings, events calendar, management of users, internal communication (notifications, blog etc.)

The following sections includes screenshots of most relevant services provided by the SharePoint platform (Figure 11 to Figure 13):
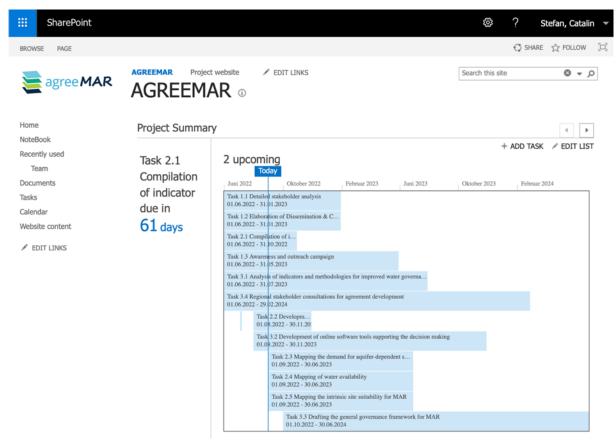

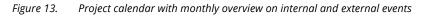*Figure 11.   The intro page of the SharePoint collaborative platform with a content overview*

---

[1] https://www.microsoft.com/en/microsoft-365/sharepoint/collaboration

      Adaptive agreements on benefits sharing for managed aquifer recharge in the Mediterranean region

Figure 12. *Internal document management system*

Figure 13. *Project calendar with monthly overview on internal and external events*

Adaptive agreements on benefits sharing for managed aquifer recharge in the Mediterranean region

3 Monitoring and updates

3.1 Web monitoring tools

Automatic traffic analysis tools are used for estimation of website performance and to identify needs for improvement. A dedicated WordPress plugin was installed to collect the following parameters: daily views and visitors, total number of visits, unique visitors, page views, visit duration, demographic analysis of visits, technology for browser and operation system, type and source of traffic (direct access, external referral). The web traffic analysis will be done in agreement with existing data protection regulations.

3.2 Management and updates

The public website is managed by the project coordinator who will conduct technical maintenance such as periodical software upgrade and content backup. New content is also uploaded regularly, especially in form of short news articles and structural improvements. The project partners can also publish content under the guidance of the project coordinator (a quality check procedure is in place) or communicate the content to the coordinator (for example, during the monthly, internal online meetings. The functionalities and the content are continuously revised and updated to meet stakeholders' expectations and engage them in the research activities. Additionally, automatic update of the WordPress installation is provided by the external hosting provider and the conformity with the accessibility regulations and data protection directives will be supervised by TUD's internal expert staff.

The project coordinator manages also the internal SharePoint workspace and supervises the overall project progress. The technical software updates and automatic backup is provided by TUD. Also here the existing rules for personal data protection prevail.

4. Conclusions

A website was developed for the AGREEMAR project consisting in one public platform (based on WordPress) and one internal communication workspace (based on MS SharePoint). The present deliverable D6.1 describes the structure and the content of the website and shows examples of key functionalities. The public website (deployed at the address https://www.agreemar.inowas.com) and the internal SharePoint platform (installed at the address https://sharepoint.tu-dresden.de/projects/agreemar) match the objectives formulated in the research proposal and address the consortium's needs for promoting outreach and communication activities. The website is under continuous development and will accommodate further content during the project implementation.